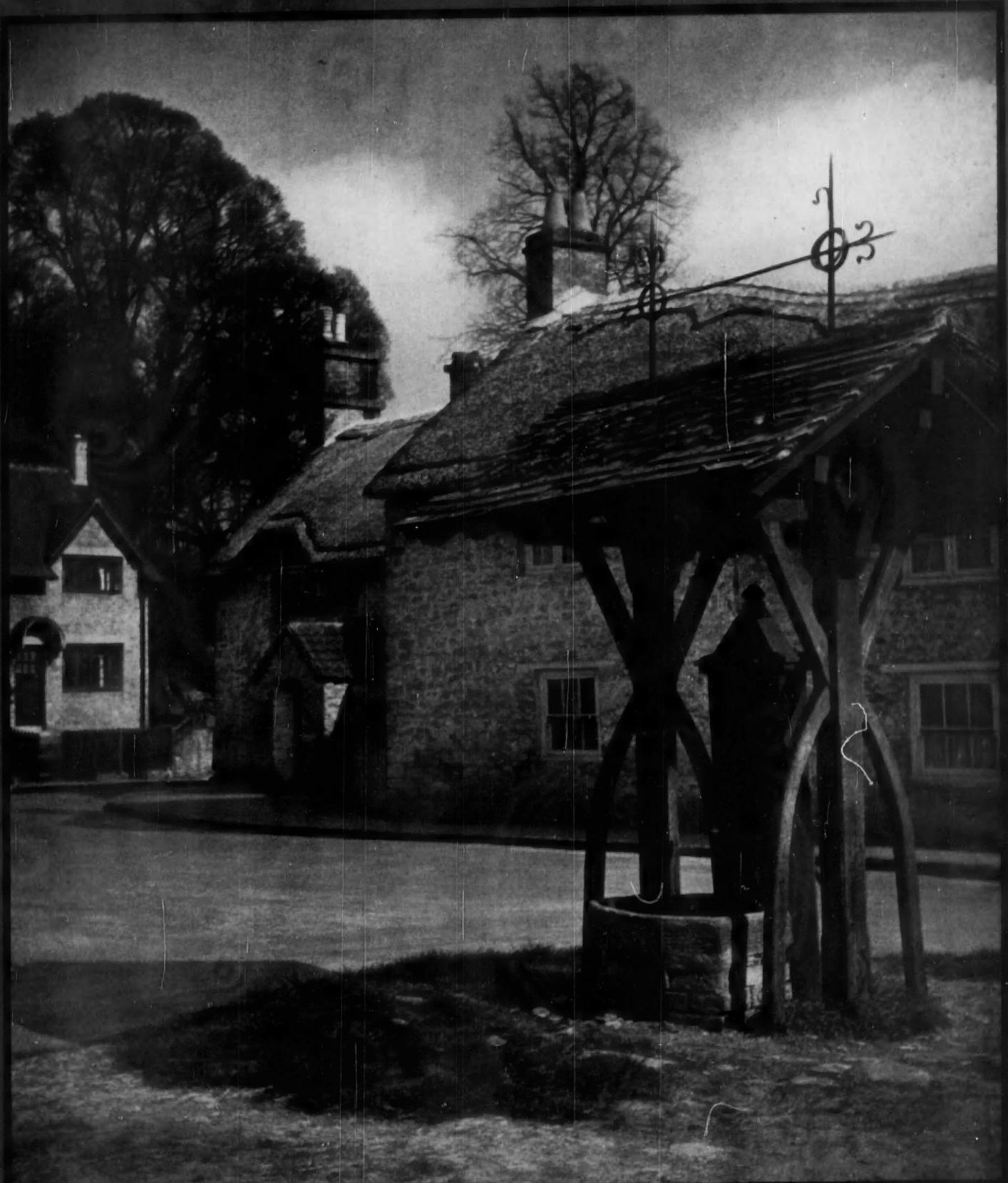


Country Life—January 20, 1955

A FLAMINGO MYSTERY SOLVED COUNTRY LIFE

On sale Thursday
JANUARY 20, 1955

TWO SHILLINGS



classified properties

AUCTIONS

SOUTH DEVON. 5 miles Kingsbridge, 2 miles Salcombe, adjoining the sea. Unique opportunity to acquire a first class agricultural estate of 376 acres with vacant possession of the whole. Beautifully situated adjoining the coast, fine farm-house and buildings, 2 cottages and separate modern residence. Good loam soil suitable for first class mixed farming. By auction as a whole or in lots on 9th February, 1955 (unless sold by private treaty).—Apply, sole Agents and Auctioneers, R. H. LUSCOMBE & SONS, Kingsbridge, South Devon.

ESTATES, FARMS AND SMALL HOLDINGS

ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY ESTATE situated centre of N. R. Yorks, comprising Home Farm 176 acres. Superior Farmhouse. Large range of buildings, also Country Manor of character, with grounds, woodland and grassland if required, also cottages, courtyard and buildings, etc. Excellent Sporting amenities, hunting with three packs. For sale as a whole or in lots. Offers invited on inspection by appointment only.—COUNTY ESTATES (YORKS) LTD., 122-124 Clifton, York. Phone 53230.

SOMERSET. Shepton House, Shepton Beauchamp (between Yeovil and Taunton). Lovely old Hamstone House in own grounds on edge of village. Hall, cloaks, 3 rec., 6 bed., dressing-room, 2 bathrooms, play-room, 1½ acres pleasure grounds, garage and outbuildings. Mains e.l. Good water and drainage. £7,000.—Particulars from FLICK & SON, Saxonham.

THATCHED COTTAGE, small, standing in large garden in unspoilt village. Wilts-Hants border. E.l. and water. Suitable for modernising. Price £1,200 freehold.—BELLAMY, 12, Rooksbury Road, Andover.

OVERSEAS

For Sale

NASSAU, BAHAMAS. £70,000 Freehold. Ten beautifully furnished Villas, producing approximately 8 per cent. net after management. No income tax or land tax. No death duties. Mortgage available. Also £1,000 per acre, 2½ acres unrestricted building land. No income tax or death duties ensures tremendous demand for luxury houses. HARDING ESTATE AGENCY LTD., 117, Queen's Road, Brighton. Tel. Brighton 28752.

To Let (Furnished)

RIVIERA. Charming furnished Villa on hills near Cannes, to let immediately for summer. Excellent maid available.—BOERTON, 63, Princes Gate, S.W.7.

BUSINESSES AND HOTELS

FIRST-CLASS HOTEL with unique atmosphere, position and reputation. For sale as going concern owing to retirement of owner. Unspoilt yachting centre. North Wales. Immediate possession. Excellent bookings. Full particulars.—Box 8730.

SHOOTINGS & FISHINGS

CORNWALL. Well-known Fishery for sale. Salmon, Sea Trout and Brown Trout. Shooting over 2,000 acres, grouse, snipe and duck. Well-maintained lodge and keeper's house. All genuine inquiries answered.—Reply to Box 8715.

RIVER DART. To Let. Salmon and Trout Fishing, approx. 1 mile.—Box 8745.

SHOOT OR ROUGH SHOT wanted, 2,000-3,000 acres within 100-mile radius of Preston.—Box 8734.

TO LET

Furnished

ALDERNEY. To Let, furnished house, 6-12 months. Large dining-lounge, excellent kitchen, 2 bedrooms, occasional room, bath and W.C.—Box 8747.

FELPHAM, Bognor Regis. Good selection of furnished Houses. Lists on application.—BAILEYS, Estate Agents, 79, Felpham Road, Bognor Regis.

TO LET. Unique position N. Cornish coast: charming house, pastel dec., new furn., 3 bedrooms, garage, frig., etc. Long or short periods.—Box 8735.

Unfurnished

FLAT TO LET, unfurnished, at the Old Rectory, Blithfield, Staffordshire. Accommodation includes: 2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, garage. Rent £300 per annum.—For further particulars and appointment to view apply: JOHN GERMAN & SONS, Land Agents, Surveyors, Auctioneers and Valuers, 84, High Street, Burton-on-Trent (Tel. 5901) and at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Derby and Ramsbury (Wiltshire).

TO LET unfurnished for 10 years. Kilmanagh Glebe House, County Kilkenny, with or without about 20 acres. Suitable poultry farm or retired man.—Apply, MILLER, Harley Park, Callan, Kilkenny.

UNFURNISHED FLAT to let. Big house, 5 miles Taunton. 3 rooms, kitchen, bathroom, telephone. 3 gns. weekly, inc. hot water, electricity, gas fire, garage.—Box 70, SMITH'S BOOK SHOP, Taunton.

classified announcements

CAR HIRE SERVICE

DRIVE YOURSELF IN IRELAND. Ford Consul/Prefect/Anglia or Hillman Minx supplied.—Apply: Reliability Cars, Ltd., 31, Kildare St., Dublin. Tel. 86242. Grams: Relicars, Dublin.

HIRE a car as private as your own—from Victor Britain, the Car Hire Specialist. Pay less and always get a new car. Self-drive Morris Oxford, Ford Consul or Vauxhall Velox 6-cylinder from £1 a day or £6 a week and an easy £6 per mile. All petrol and oil free.—Write, telephone or call VICTOR BRITAIN, LTD., 12a, Berkeley Street, London, W.1 (Tel. GROsvenor 4881), or 11, Gt. Cumberland Place, Marble Arch, W.1 (Tel. AMBassador 2814).

MOTOR CARS AND VEHICLES

FOR SALE AND WANTED

AUSTIN HEALEY. Have you tried this amazing sports car? If not we shall be pleased to arrange a run for you on our demonstration model.

H. B. SAUNDERS, LTD.,
Austin Distributors,
836 High Road,
N. Finchley, N.12
Hillside 8272.

ROLLS-ROYCE PHANTOM III Barker limousine. Fitted with heater and radio. Colour-black. First registered in 1937. This car is in superb condition and is offered at the price of £925.—AUTOMOBILE & AIRCRAFT SERVICES, LTD., 606, Kenton Road, Harrow, Middlesex. WOR. 7805 (5 lines). Rootes Group Dealers.

BUILDING SITES AND LAND

FREEHOLD LAND. Beautiful woodland site, 2½ acres. Tewin, Herts. 30 miles London. £900.—Box 8733.

HAYWARDS HEATH. Building plot, 52 x 180 ft. All services. S. aspect. £425. Tel. Lindfield 2129.

KENT. 300 ft. up. Perfect site for one house. 7 acres incl. delightful garden, rough woodland, stabling and buildings. Freehold £1,750 (addit. rough woodland avail.).—BURROWS, CLEMENTS, WINCH AND SONS, Ashford, Kent (Tel. 1294).

DEVON and S.W. COUNTIES. For selected list of PROPERTIES.—RIPON BOSWELL & CO., F.A.I., Exeter (Tel. 59378).

EAST DEVON COAST AND COUNTRY. Properties of all types.—THOMAS SANDERS & STAFF, Sidmouth (Tel. ONE), Axminster (Tel. 3341), and Ottery St. Mary (Tel. 380).

ESSEX and SUFFOLK. Country Properties and Farms.—C. M. STANFORD AND SONS, Colchester (Tel. 3165, 4 lines).

EXETER and DISTRICT.—ANDREW REDFERN, F.A.I., 1, High Street, Exeter.

GRIBBLE, BOOTH & SHEPHERD specialise in the small Period Country Houses, Farms and Cottages of character throughout the south-western counties.—17, Hendford, Yeovil (Tel. 434).

WANTED

BUILDING LAND required. Outer London Districts 2 acres or more in area suitable for housing development. Vacant properties standing large grounds suitable for development also considered. Agents Retained.—Particulars to "TRUE-BOND" HOMES, 342, Richmond Road, East Twickenham. POP. 6231.

AGRICULTURAL CONSULTANTS

TO BUY A FARM? To Sell a Farm? How to farm with profit?—Consult THE FARM and ESTATE BUREAU, Bath (Tel. 3747).

WANTED

A SPECIAL APPLICANT requires a good modern or Period House in the Guildford-Dorking-Horsham triangle, and the villages of Farley Green, Peaseake and Shamley Green are especially favoured. Accommodation 5/6 bedrooms, 3/4 reception and 2 baths. Garden should not be too large, and a cottage or bungalow would be welcome.—Please phone or send details to Mrs. "A", c/o MESSENGER MORGAN & MAY, 8, Quarry Street, Guildford. (Tel. 2992/4).

HOUSE WANTED, 6/7 bedrooms min. Preferably grounds 10 acres or more. 15/20 miles Stroud, Kent.—Box 8711.

IF YOUR COUNTRY HOUSE is in the market, it should be in the experienced hands of the SPECIALIST AGENTS, F. L. MERCER & CO., 46, Piccadilly, W.1 (Tel. REGENT 2481). If brief particulars are sent (with price) they will inspect suitable properties by arrangement. Please quote "C.L." in responding to this announcement.

WANTED TO RENT

WITHIN 25 MILES and daily access London. Lieut.-Colonel, serving officer wants minimum 2 years furn./part furn. self-contained flat/wing of country house or lodge comprising 3/4 bedrooms, etc. Box 8736.

WANTED FOR DEMOLITION

CASTLES, Country Mansions, Estates purchased by the demolition specialists.—JOSEPH STANDISH, LTD., Hunslet, Leeds 9. Tel. 21491. (Established 1920).

DEMOLITION. We specialise in demolishing uneconomic properties; also demolition of unwanted wings, etc.

LATHAM & CO. (CONTRACTORS), LTD., Ottershaw, Surrey. Tel.: Ottershaw 428 (3 lines). Members of The National Federation of Demolition Contractors.

DIRECTORY

A MERSHAM, GREAT MISSSENDEN, CHESHAM. The lovely Chiltern country.—PRETTY & ELLIS, Amersham (Tel. 27), Gt. Missenden (2363), and Chesham (16).

BERKS, BUCKS and surrounding Counties. Town and Country Properties of all types.—MARTIN & POLE (incorporating WATTS AND SON), 23, Market Place, Reading (Tel. 50266/7/8) and at Caversham, Wokingham and High Wycombe.

BEXHILL, COODEN & DISTRICT. For available properties apply STEPHEN GRAHAM & PARTNERS, 9, St. Leonard Rd., Bexhill-on-Sea (Tel. 3883-4).

BUCKS. Details of Residential Properties now available on application to HETHERINGTON & SCRETT, F.A.I., Estate Offices, Gerrards Cross (Tel. 2044 & 2510), and Beaconsfield (Tel. 240 and 154) and at London, W.5.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE & E. BERKS.—A. C. FROST & CO., Beaconsfield (Tel. 600), Gerrards Cross (Tel. 2277), Burnham (Tel. 1000), Farnham Common (Tel. 300) and Windsor (Tel. 2580).

COTSWOLDS. For small period houses or cottages to buy or sell, consult BILLINGS AND SONS, Auctioneers and Estate Agents, 54, Winchcombe St., Cheltenham (Tel. 55774).

HARVEY NICHOLS of Bournemouth, having recently acquired J. J. Allen's Removal and Depository, can now offer one of the largest and most comprehensive removal and storage services on the south coast. All work expertly handled by experienced staff. Storage under first-class conditions. Effects packed and shipped overseas. Estimates without obligation from: Commercial Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 1055.

HOUSEHOLD REMOVALS ABROAD. Illustrated booklet of information CL/104 free on request.—PITT & SCOTT, LTD., 1-3, St. Paul's Churchyard, London, E.C.4. Passages arranged.

JOSEPH MAY, LTD., the firm with the splendid reputation, cut removal costs with their Return Loads. Estimates free.—Whitfield Street, W.1 (Tel. MUSeum 2411).

PACKING. Removal, Shipment and Insurance of household effects and works of art to any part of the world.—BENTALLS, LTD., Kingston-on-Thames (Tel. 1901).

PICKFORDS. Removers and Storers. Part lots or single articles. Weekly delivery everywhere. Overseas removal. Complete service. Branches in all large towns. Head office: 102, Blackstock Rd., London, N.4. CAN. 4444.

ROWLAND SMITH'S. The Car Buyers. All makes wanted for cash. Open 9-7 weekdays and Saturdays—Hampstead High St. (Hampstead Tube), N.W.3. HAM. 6041.

ACCESSORIES

ALLY-KLAD PURE WOOL CAR SEAT COVERS add warmth, comfort and avoid clothes shine. Available in plain cloths and over 300 authentic clan tartans.—Ask your garage for free booklet and samples or write KLADWELL LTD., 24, Gallowgate, Glasgow, C.1.

CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED ON OTHER PAGES
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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXVII No. 3027

JANUARY 20, 1955

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

By direction of the Rt. Hon. Lord Woolton, C.H., P.C.

1 mile from station (London 45 minutes by fast train). Unspoilt rural situation with lovely views to the South Downs.



HAYWARDS HEATH

A FINE REPLICA OF A TUDOR MANOR HOUSE, exceptionally well equipped and in first-rate order throughout.

Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, 8 principal bed and dressing rooms, 6 secondary and staff rooms and 5 bathrooms. Central heating.

Main electricity and water. Ample garage accommodation. Chauffeur's flat. Gardener's cottage. Well wooded gardens with hard and grass tennis courts. Kitchen garden, orchards and parklike grassland.

ABOUT 30 ACRES



Freehold for sale as a whole or would be divided.

Strongly recommended by Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

CHALFONT ST. GILES, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

SITUATED IN THE CENTRE OF THE PICTURESQUE VILLAGE OVERLOOKING THE GREEN

Excellent bus services and Green Line Coach service to London (24 miles).

"SANDFORDS"

A CHARMING QUEEN ANNE HOUSE built of red brick with a mellowed tiled roof.

3 reception rooms, 4 principal and 2 other bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom. Main electric light, power, gas and water. Garage.

Stable and man's room over, suitable for conversion to cottage.



ATTRACTIVE MAINLY WALLED GARDEN

Matured lawn, kitchen garden.

ABOUT ½ ACRE. FREEHOLD

For Sale by Auction
at an early date
(unless previously sold).

Solicitors:
Messrs. STONES, MORRIS AND STONE, 2, Wardrobe Place,
Doctors' Commons, E.C.4.

Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT,
FRANK & RUTLEY.

26 MILES SOUTH OF LONDON A CHARMING AND WELL APPOINTED HOUSE (CIRCA 1729)



Carefully modernised and is in first-class order throughout.

The house, which has large rooms, is situated 200 ft. up facing south, and is approached by a drive.

Entrance hall, 3 reception rooms, 7 bed and/or dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms. Central heating. Separate hot water system. Main electricity, gas and water.

Stabling for 4. Garage for 2.

2 cottages.



Well-timbered gardens, hard tennis court, rose garden, herbaceous borders, nuttary, kitchen garden, orchard, paddocks and spinney.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 14 ACRES

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (37,152)

KENT—ASHFORD 5½ MILES

A WELL-DESIGNED HOUSE

Built of brick with Kentish weather tiling and half timbered.

Facing south in finely timbered grounds.



3 reception rooms, 6 principal bedrooms (3 with basins h. and c.), 3 modern bathrooms, 2 staff bedrooms. Central heating. Main electric light and water. Good outbuildings. Cowshed.

Double garage.

MODERN COTTAGE
with bathroom.

Easily maintained grounds including kitchen garden, pasture and woodland. In all 30 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION, £8,500

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (29,114 KM)

MAYfair 3771
(15 lines)

BETWEEN NEWBURY AND READING

Close to small village. 340 ft. up facing south with beautiful views.

A DELIGHTFUL MODERN GEORGIAN HOUSE

Built of brick with a tiled roof, it is well-equipped and in exceptionally good order.



In all 33 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD AS A WHOLE, OR THE HOUSE WOULD BE SOLD WITH 4½ OR MORE ACRES TO SUIT A PURCHASER'S REQUIREMENTS
Owner's Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (52,513 CMS)

Telegrams:
"Galleries, Wexford, London."

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1



JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF

8, HANOVER STREET, LONDON, W.1

MAYFAIR 3316/7

Also at CIRENCESTER, NORTHAMPTON, YORK, YEOVIL, CHICHESTER, CHESTER, NEWMARKET AND DUBLIN

DORSET

In the Cattistock Hunt Country. 1 mile from Closworth Village and Ryde Intrinseca. Yeovil 4, Sherborne 7.

THE QUEEN ANNE STYLE COUNTRY HOUSE KNOWN AS PRINCE'S PLACE, CLOSWORTH

4 master bedrooms,
2 bathrooms, 4 secondary
bedrooms, 3 reception
rooms, modernised kitchen,
etc. SMALL FARM-
STAD. 3 splendid hunter
boxes. Excellent COTTAGE.
Main water and
electricity. Central heating.
13 ACRES
VACANT
POSSESSION

Auction (unless previously sold by private treaty) at The Half Moon Hotel, Yeovil, on Friday, February 25, 1955, at 3 p.m.

Solicitors: Messrs. IVENS, MORTON & GREVILLE-SMITH, Bank Buildings, Kidderminster (Tel. 2451), Worcs.

Illustrated particulars and order to view from Auctioneers: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 36, Hendford, Yeovil (Tel. 1066), London and Provinces.

IN VILLAGE**ON THE FRINGE OF YORK***The city only 5 miles.***A CONVENIENTLY SITUATE COUNTRY HOUSE****WITH 3/4 ACRE OF GARDEN**

Detached and double-fronted with wide bays to principal rooms, comprising:
ENTRANCE HALL, 2 RECEPTION and 4 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM with pedestal basin, etc., and w.c. OUTBUILDINGS INCLUDING GARAGE

All main services. Immersion heater.
R.V. £25.

ONLY £3,500 FREEHOLD

Full particulars from JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 23, High Petergate, York (Tel. 53176/54468).

COTSWOLDS*5 miles main line station to London (2 hours).***CHARMING GEORGIAN AND TUDOR HOUSE**

600 ft. up, facing due south and containing much beautiful architecture.

7 bed. and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, cloakroom, domestic offices, 3 attics.

Company's water. Main electric light and power.

Modern drainage. Aga and Agamatic.

Beautiful grounds.

AN EARLY SALE DESIRED AND NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED FOR THE FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS, Cirencester (Tel. 334/5).

GROsvenor 3121
(3 lines)

WINKWORTH & CO.

48, CURZON STREET,
LONDON, W.1

A BEAUTIFUL PERIOD RESIDENCE WITH HOME FARM**ABOUT 1½ HOURS BY RAIL FROM LONDON***On high ground facing south with lovely open view; on a bus route and near a village.***THE CHARMING OLD XVTH-CENTURY HOUSE**

of picturesque half-timbered and tiled elevation.

CONTAINS FINE OAK PANELLING AND VARIOUS OTHER INTERESTING FEATURES, BUT HAS BEEN SKILFULLY ENLARGED AND THOROUGHLY MODERNISED OVER THE YEARS.

IT IS NOW IN EXCELLENT ORDER THROUGHOUT

FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH ABOUT 5 OR 84 ACRES

Inspected and highly recommended by WINKWORTH & CO., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1. (Tel.: GRO. 3121).

GLoucestershire. 9 MILES FROM BRISTOL**OUTSTANDING OLD 17th CENTURY RESIDENCE**

6 BEDROOMS,
BATHROOM,
3 RECEPTION ROOMS,
CLOAKROOM.

Main electricity.

Company's water.

Very charming old garden,
a really beautiful feature
of the property.

2 PADDOCKS

TOTAL 7 ACRES

**FREEHOLD FOR SALE**

Recommended as an unusually attractive property by the Owner's Agents:
JACKSON-STOPS, Cirencester (Tel. 334/5).

ONE OF THE FEW SMALL GENUINE UNALTERED JACOBEAN PERIOD HOUSES IN NORTH WALES**PENTREHOBYN, NEAR MOLD, FLINTSHIRE***Chester 11 miles, Mold 1 mile.*

Apply to JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 25, Nicholas Street, Chester (Tel. 21522-3).

BEAUFORT HUNT*Chippenham 4 miles, Malmesbury 7 miles.***L-SHAPED RESIDENCE**

part dated 15th Century,
formerly an old Coaching Inn.

4 bedrooms (2 with basins),
bathroom, 2 reception rooms,
lounge hall, self-contained flat with bathroom.
Main electricity. Company's water. Modern drainage.

GARAGE (2).

Stabling (3). Very productive garden and paddock of outstandingly excellent land.

TOTAL 3 1/2 ACRES



FREEHOLD FOR SALE PRIVATELY NOW OR BY AUCTION LATER
Joint Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS, Cirencester (Tel. 334/5); ROOKE, HOBBS & CO., Badminton (Tel. 203).

7 BEDROOMS AND 3 BATHROOMS IN SUITES, STAFF ROOMS AND 4TH BATH,
4 RECEPTION ROOMS, COMPACT OFFICES.

Oak floors. Central heating. Main water and electricity.

Terraced "seasonal" gardens with lily pool and hard tennis court.

STABLING, GARAGE AND FARM
3 COTTAGES

Buildings for T.T. and attested dairy herd.

PRODUCTIVE FARM LAND WITH SMALL FRONTAGE TO RIVER

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

KENT. EASY REACH OF MAIDSTONE

Pleasant position with open views over parklike meadows.
A CHARMING GEORGIAN HOUSE



IN ALL 3½ ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD
Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. GEORGE WEBB & CO., Sittingbourne, and
Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (38520 KM)

MAYfair 3771
(15 lines)

Built of red brick with a
slated roof
3 reception rooms, 6 bed-
rooms, dressing room,
2 bathrooms, 3 staff rooms
and bathroom over garage.

Central heating.
Main electric light.
Easily maintained gardens
and grounds.

MELTON MOWBRAY DISTRICT

3½ miles from main-line station.
A SMALL HOUSE OF CHARACTER with stabling for 8.

Situated in a quiet
Leicestershire village
with views to agricultural
land, the property
has considerable charm.
Believed to have been built
in the 17th century, and
thoroughly modernised in
the last few months.

Entrance hall, 2 reception
rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bath-
rooms. All main services.
Extensive ranges of buildings
providing garages, stabling and loose boxes
(with loft over), cowhouse,
etc. About 1 acre.



FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (52283 CF).

Telegrams:
"Galleries, Weso, London"

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

1, STATION ROAD,
READING

READING 54055 (3 lines)

NICHOLAS

(ESTABLISHED 1882)

4, ALBANY COURT YARD,
PICCADILLY, W.1
REGENT 1184 (3 lines)

LAMBOURN (NEWBURY 12 MILES)

OLD-WORLD VILLAGE HOUSE

5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Mains.

A BARGAIN AT £2,750 FREEHOLD

ANDOVER

EXCELLENT OAK-FLOORED MODERN HOUSE

5 bedrooms. Mains. FREEHOLD £5,500

READING—NEWBURY (Between)

COUNTRY HOUSE WITH SOUTH VIEWS

5 bedrooms. COTTAGE

3½ ACRES. £6,950 BARGAIN

CHILTERN HILLS

CENTURIES-OLD HOUSE (formerly Farmhouse)

7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, music room.

4 ACRES. FREEHOLD £8,750 OR OFFER

OXFORD (2 miles)

ARCHITECT'S CHARMING HOUSE

4-6 bedrooms. Central heating and mains. 2 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD—OFFERS INVITED

COLD ASH, NEAR NEWBURY

PLEASING LITTLE COUNTRY HOUSE (also ideal as two units)

3 reception, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 1½ ACRES

FOR SALE BY EXOR. £4,750

3½ MILES SOUTH OF READING

A GENUINE TUDOR COTTAGE (rural setting)

3 bedrooms. Mains. 4-acre meadow available.

FOR SALE £3,650

16 ARCADE STREET,
IPSWICH
Ipswich 4334

WOODCOCKS

30, ST. GEORGE STREET,
HANOVER SQUARE, W.1
MAYfair 5411

9 MILES EXETER ON TRUNK ROAD RESIDENTIAL ATTESTED T.T. DAIRY FARM

90 ACRES



A CHOICE PROPERTY AT £10,850 FREEHOLD

WITH EARLY POSSESSION

Strongly recommended by WOODCOCKS, London.

Attractive 18th-century House of character.

Hall with cloaks, 2 reception,
study, 5 bedrooms
(3 with basins), Aga,
bathroom, w.c.

Main electricity, good water
supply.

Ample buildings housing
pedigree Jersey herd,
2 excellent cottages with
all amenities.

Hunting with two packs.
Good bus service.
Substantial Income Tax
relief.

ONE HOUR WEST OF LONDON

Berks, handy main-line station.

REALLY DELIGHTFUL TUDOR HOUSE in beautiful secluded gardens;
2-3 reception, cloakroom, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main services.
Profitable small farmery. 12 ACRES IN ALL.
UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY AT £6,950 FREEHOLD
Recommended by WOODCOCKS, London.

NORTH EAST NORFOLK

Cromer 8 miles, Norwich 13.

AN UNUSUALLY WELL-BUILT AND PICTURESQUE DETACHED
COUNTRY RESIDENCE in first-class order. 2 good-sized reception, kitchen
(Esel, Ideal), 5 excellent bedrooms (2 with basins), 2 bathrooms. Mains e.l. Double
and single garages, stabling. Charming small partly walled grounds, capital paddock
and orchard. TOTAL AREA 3½ ACRES. FREEHOLD £6,000
Seen and recommended by Ipswich Office.

EASY RUN NEWMARKET

Amidst unusually beautiful timbered surroundings in one of the finest sporting districts
in England.

SUFFOLK—SMALL RESIDENTIAL ESTATE OF 9 ACRES, partly wood-
land. Completely modernised and well-planned RESIDENCE on 2 floors, in quite
unspoilt surroundings; cloaks, 3 reception, 6 beds., 2 bathrooms. Mains e.l., central
heating. Gardener's bungalow, outbuildings, garages. Kitchen garden and paddock;
Best-rate order; shooting, fishing, golf. FREEHOLD £6,000
Inspected and strongly recommended by Ipswich Office.



HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

HYDE PARK 8222 (20 lines)

Telex: "Belanet, Piccy, London"

BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES.

MID-SUSSEX

Standing on a knoll in the immediate vicinity of the South Downs. Amid superb country and a motor run of the main line.

FOR SALE

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION BY THE MARCH QUARTER



LODGE WITH 2 SITTING ROOMS, 3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM. STABLING 2 STALLS AND LOOSE BOX. SPACIOUS GARAGE AND CHAUFFEUR'S ROOM



The Assembly Hall



The Lodge

THE ASSEMBLY HALL, a picturesque building with a dance floor and measuring 39 ft. 6 in. by 21 ft. Central heating. Stage, cloakrooms and kitchen.

ATTRACTIVE GROUNDS

with orchards, kitchen and flower gardens, some glass, in all about

4 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD AS A WHOLE £8,750

Highly recommended by Sole Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's S.W.1. (C.64186)

BERKS. (LONDON 36 MILES)

A FASCINATING PERIOD PROPERTY WITH EXTENSIVE VIEWS



Unusually attractive, part dating 16th century and with later additions

Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, study, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen (Agamatic).

Double garage.

All main services.

Outbuildings.

Delightful secluded well-timbered garden and grounds, tennis lawn, kitchen garden and orchard, nearly 2 ACRES.

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (B.64302)

SUSSEX

High position overlooking Findon valley.

Adjoining golf course. Easy reach of the coast at Worthing.

A DISTINCTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE, NICELY APPOINTED &



Lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, dressing room, tiled bathroom.

Good offices.

Main electric light, power and water.

Garage for 2.

Pretty garden of 1 ACRE

Easy of maintenance.

Very moderate outgoings.

URGENT SALE

Reasonable offers for the freehold considered.

Recommended by HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C.66712)

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19; BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS; AND BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.

SMALL NORTH DEVONSHIRE ESTATE

A few miles from the coast.

AN ATTRACTIVE STONE-BUILT HOUSE



With its accommodation on two floors. Practically all rooms face south or west. 6 bedrooms (2 fitted basins), bathroom, 3 reception rooms (two 22 ft. by 18 ft.). Central heating. Electric light. Water by power. Garages, outbuildings, stabling.

FARMERY COTTAGE with 2 sitting and 3 bedrooms. Main electric light and main water available. Arable, pasture land and some woodland, stream.

The whole extending to about 5½ ACRES

FREEHOLD £7,750 OR NEAR OFFER. VACANT POSSESSION

Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C.22075)

TADWORTH, SURREY

5 minutes from station. Near Epsom Downs and golf courses.

COTSWOLD STYLE STONE-ROOFED MODERN RESIDENCE



"Flagcourt,"
The Avenue
containing 5 principal bedrooms, dressing room, 3 family bathrooms, lounge hall and 3 reception rooms, good staff wing of 4 rooms and bathroom, excellent modern offices. Fine decorative order.

Central heating and all main services. Garage for 3. Greenhouse and useful outbuildings.

EXQUISITE LANDSCAPE GARDEN

1½ ACRES

Freehold with vacant possession.

FOR SALE PRIVATELY OR BY AUCTION, MARCH 23, 1955

Joint Auctioneers: ALAN M. COULSON & CO., Station Approach, Tadworth (Tel. 2242), or HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

HYDE PARK
4304

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE STREET,
PICCADILLY, W.1

MID-SOMERSET

South of the Mendip Hills, near the City of Wells.
Charming Small Stone-built Period Residence

In first-class order and thoroughly modernised with panelled hall, 2 reception, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, modern domestic offices. Main electricity and water. Garage for 2 cars and lovely walled old-world garden of just under 1 ACRE
FREEHOLD ONLY £5,950 OR NEAR OFFER Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,589)

NEAR SUSSEX COAST

Occupying a superb position, enjoying wonderful views and having direct access to a Golf course**A DISTINCTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE built of brick with tiled roof and well fitted throughout.**

Lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, 5-6 bedrooms, bathroom. Part central heating.

Main electricity and water. Double garage.

Charming, matured garden of about 1 ACRE

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (19,418)

IN A VILLAGE NEAR AYLESBURY
Facing south, some 500 feet above sea level and commanding fine views.**A Delightful Stone-built House**

with 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main electricity and water. Garage.

Well maintained garden of ABOUT 1 ACRE

FREEHOLD ONLY £4,950 FOR QUICK SALE

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,576)

NORTHANTS

Splendidly situated in a village between Stony Stratford and Towcester.
A DELIGHTFUL STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

with hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electricity and water. Main drainage. Garages, Stabling and Outbuildings. Matured gardens, paddock and pasture land, in all ABOUT 24 ACRES
Low Price for Quick Sale. Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,065)

3, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

GROSVENOR
1032-33-34

RURAL ESSEX—NEAR CHIPPING ONGAR

AMIDST BEAUTIFUL UNDULATING AND WOODED COUNTRY, YET ONLY 21 MILES LONDON

FINE OLD RED BRICK GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

LOVELY OLD-ESTABLISHED GROUNDS AND WALLED GARDENS
FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Confidently recommended by the Sole Agents, RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

SOUTH BUCKS, ADJOINING THE GREEN BELT

On high ground in a delightful stretch of unspoiled country under 20 miles London.

LUXURIOUSLY APPOINTED RESIDENCE OF UNUSUAL CHARM.
Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, well-equipped offices. Central heating. Main electricity and water. Garages, useful outbuildings. Lovely gardens, swimming pool, walled kitchen garden, in all about 3 1/4 ACRES.
FREEHOLD £9,250

GROSVENOR
2861TRESIDDER & CO.
77, SOUTH AUDLEY STREET, LONDON, W.1Telegrams:
"Cornishmen (Audley) London"

HORSHAM 3 1/2 MILES

1 1/2 miles local station, on bus route.
PICTURESQUE COTTAGE 400 YEARS OLD

Modernised and in excellent order.

Hall, 2 reception, bathroom, 3 bedrooms. Main electricity and water. Telephone. Garage. Workshop. Gardens 3/4 ACRE

FREEHOLD FOR SALE £5,750, OR WOULD BE LET FURNISHED

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (29,607)

ON THE HILLS ABOVE HENLEY

Beautifully placed 750 ft. up, 8 miles Henley, 12 Reading; far-reaching views.

COUNTRY HOUSE OF OLD-WORLD CHARM

Modernised and in excellent condition.

3 good reception, 3 bathrooms, 6 bedrooms (fitted basins). Efficient central heating by Janitor. Main water and electricity. Aga. Double garage. Outbuildings, excellent modern cottage. Attractive gardens and paddock.

3 1/2 ACRES

Sole Agents: TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (20,811)

£7,950 FREEHOLD. HASLEMERE

Magnificent position, 550 ft. up. Views to South Downs. Town centre under a mile. Station 1 1/2 miles (Waterloo under an hour).

BEAUTIFULLY EQUIPPED COUNTRY HOUSE

6-7 bedrooms (4 h. and c.), 2 bathrooms, billiards room, 3 reception rooms, galleried hall, modernised kitchen. Oak paneling and woodwork. Oil-fired central heating. Main electricity and water. Excellent built-in garage (heated). Delightful grounds, easily maintained. Terrace. Tennis and other lawns. Fine shrubs and trees.

Small kitchen garden. **ABOUT 3 ACRES**

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (10,817)

WILTSHIRE—GLOUCESTERSHIRE BORDER

3 1/2 miles main-line station, 1 1/2 hours' run Paddington.

14 miles Marlborough. 13 Cirencester.

A CHARMING STONE-BUILT HOUSE IN PARKLIKE SETTING

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, modern kitchen,

5 main bedrooms, dressing room, 2 modern bathrooms, 6 attic rooms.

Central heating. Electric light. Main water, gas and drainage.

Inexpensive gardens. Lawns and woodlands.

2 1/4 ACRES. £5,000 FREEHOLD

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (23,901)

SURREY. £6,000

ADJOINING GOLF COURSE

One mile station (Waterloo 35 minutes).

Convenient for village, secluded and approached by drive.

PICTURESQUE COUNTRY HOUSE

With all main services, central heating,

4 bedrooms, fitted basins (h. and c.), dressing room, 3 baths., 3 reception.

Easily maintained gardens, partly walled, lawns, choice flowering shrubs.

2 1/2 ACRES

Agents: TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (20,590)

£2,250 FREEHOLD. 1 1/2 MILES THAME

In pretty hamlet away from traffic.

PICTURESQUE OLD BLACK-AND-WHITE COTTAGE

Modernised. 2 reception, bathroom, 2 bedrooms. Extra bedroom behind garage.

Main electricity and water.

Garden of about ONE-FIFTH ACRE

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (20,473)

FOREST ROW, SUSSEX
(Near East Grinstead)
Tel. FOREST ROW 363 and 364

POWELL & PARTNER, LTD.

And at EDENBRIDGE,
KENT.
Tel. 2381

NEAR HAYWARDS HEATH

In the sought-after village of Lindfield.



A GENUINE 15th and 16th-CENTURY COTTAGE OF QUAINTE CHARM. An ideal character retreat for the city businessman. Modernised yet retaining all the charm of the period with its oak beams, Sussex fireplaces, etc. and fronting a country lane within 2 miles of the main line station (electric). 4 bedrooms (1 ground floor), bathroom on ground floor, study, lounge, dining room, excellent kitchen. Main services. Old-world garden. Garage. Barn. **FREEHOLD £3,850** R.276

IN VILLAGE,

NEAR TUNBRIDGE WELLS

10 minutes of station and close to shops, schools, etc.



A WELL-PLANNED MODERNISED SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE. Inspected and recommended. Modernised, excellent order throughout, only reluctantly in the market owing to business reasons. 3 good bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen. Main services. Garage 2 cars. Garden. Paddock. **2 ACRES. FREEHOLD £5,500.** R.279

ON ASHDOWN FOREST AND

GOLF LINKS



MODERN GEORGIAN-STYLE RESIDENCE Fine entrance hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, sun lounge, 5 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, plus staff ground floor bed-sitting room and bathroom. Automatic central heating. Unique house and woodland grounds. **3 ACRES.** (Cottage and further 2 acre if required.)

GROsvenor 1553
(4 lines)**GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS**(ESTABLISHED 1778)
25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.I.13, Hobart Place
Eaton Square,
5, West Halkin Street,
Belgrave Square,
London, S.W.1.**THE SPACIOUS TRAINING SCHOOL OF THE ROYAL LONDON SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND**
DORTON HOUSE, NEAR AYLESBURY, BUCKS

FORMING READY MADE SCHOOL OR INSTITUTIONAL PREMISES. IDEAL FOR RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT, ETC.



GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.I.

R.A.W. (6795)

Affording extensive accommodation in a FINE ELIZABETHAN MANSION

PURPOSE BUILT CLASSROOMS AND MASTERS' ACCOMMODATION.
GYMNASIUM. WORKSHOPS.
FINELY APPOINTED MODERN RESIDENCE.4 MODERNISED COTTAGES & LODGES.
Walled kitchen garden and level park-like pasture.**65 ACRES FREEHOLD****WEST NORFOLK**
A REPUTED DOWER HOUSE

Approached by a drive. Hall, 3 rec., 8 bed., bath, etc. Main s.l. available. Ample water. Modern drainage. GARAGE, STABLING, 2 COTTAGES. USEFUL SET OF FARM BUILDINGS. Arable pasture and woodland (bounded by a river). IN ALL ABOUT 14½ ACRES (part let). LOW PRICE. FOR SALE FREEHOLD. GEORGE TROLLOPE AND SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.I. C.G.B. (BX.1176)

OUTSKIRTS OF GUILDFORDOver 500 ft. up with far reaching uninterrupted views.
Main line station 2 miles, convenient bus service.**MODERN RESIDENCE IN EXCELLENT ORDER THROUGHOUT.** 5 bed., dressing room, 2 bathrooms, 2 rec. rooms, staff sitting room. Usual offices. All main services. TWO GARAGES. Easelly maintained garden with tennis court. **1 ACRE. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.** Strongly recommended by the owners Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.I. E.H.T. (D.1318)**UNspoilt Herts:
NEAR BUNTINGFORD****PICTURESQUE 16TH-CENTURY THATCHED COTTAGE**

Fully modernised on labour-saving lines. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, study. Main electricity and water. Central heating. Thatched barn (garage, etc.). Garden. Orchard. Paddock.

IN ALL 3½ ACRES. LOW RATES.

PRICE £4,750 FREEHOLD
WITH EARLY POSSESSION
CBA (BX.1267)**HIGH IN THE SURREY HILLS:
WITH FINE VIEWS**10 minutes' walk of 2 stations. London 35 minutes.
A LUXURIOUSLY APPOINTED SMALL MODERN RESIDENCEExtravagantly re-fitted throughout; now unexpectedly for sale. 5 bedrooms (4 h. and c.), bathroom, 2/3 reception rooms. All main services. Double garage. **1½ ACRES.**

FREEHOLD £7,250

ALL REASONABLE OFFERS CONSIDERED FOR
EARLY DISPOSAL. C.G.B./C.B.A. (D.1773)**WEST SUSSEX**

Facing south with views over Chichester harbour.

**CHARMING SMALL GEORGIAN RESIDENCE.** Fully modernised and easily run. 4-5 beds., 2 baths, 3 rec. rooms and study. Compact offices with Aga. Central heating. Cottage, Games room. Delightful garden and paddock. **ABOUT 3 ACRES. FREEHOLD.** VACANT POSSESSION. Also staff maisonette now let at £175 p.a., but vacant shortly. **FREEHOLD.** IMMEDIATE SALE REQUIRED. Further cottage, stabling and paddock available if required. GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.I. CBA (C.2728)Tel. MAYfair
0023-4**R. C. KNIGHT & SONS**130, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1.**EAST SUFFOLK**
IN FAVOURED DISTRICT—WOODBRIDGE 6 miles.
NETHERS HALL, OTLEY**A very attractive Tudor Residence, carefully modernised and in excellent condition throughout.**
Hall, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, 6 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen with Aga.
Main water, Central heating
Own 230 volt electric plant.
Septic tank drainage.
GARAGE and STABLING.
Old-world garden.
SMALL FARMERY and
4 ACRES**BY AUCTION AT THE CROWN HOTEL, IPSWICH, on FEBRUARY 15,**
AS A WHOLE OR IN TWO LOTS
Auctioneers: R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, Market Place, Stowmarket (Tel. 384/5) or as above.

And at NORWICH, STOWMARKET, BURY ST. EDMUNDS, CAMBRIDGE, HOLT and HADLEIGH

NORTH ESSEX

Within daily reach of the City of London.

A SMALL WING OF A COUNTRY MANSION

(the remainder having been demolished)

suitable for conversion to a house of convenient size.

MAIN ELECTRICITY CONNECTED

GARAGES, STABLING AND OTHER USEFUL OUTBUILDINGS

The gardens and grounds extend to about **6 ACRES** and further pasture land is available up to a total of about**42 ACRES**Further particulars and plan from the Sole Agents:
R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, 130, Mount Street, W.1.Telegrams:
"Sales, Edinburgh"**C. W. INGRAM & SONS**
CHARTERED SURVEYORS, 90, PRINCES STREET, EDINBURGHTelephone:
Edinburgh 32251 (2 lines)

FOR SALE PRIVATELY.

KINROSS-SHIRE

Within easy reach of LOCH LEVEN.

ATTRACTIVE GARDENS, GROUND AND WOODLAND OF
ABOUT 7 ACRES

For particulars of the above and other Scottish Houses, Farms and Estates, please apply to: C. W. INGRAM & SONS, 90, Princes Street, Edinburgh.

FOR SALE PRIVATELY.

BERWICKSHIRE

2½ miles from Duns.

COUNTRY HOUSE WITH 22 ACRES3 RECEPTION ROOMS,
9 BED AND DRESSING ROOMS (most having basins), 4 BATHROOMS.
Well fitted throughout.Main electricity
Central heating

LODGE AND 2 COTTAGES, GARAGE AND STABLES.

Walled garden.
Wooded policies and paddock.

5, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1
GROSVENOR
3131-2 and 4744-5

CURTIS & HENSON

ESTABLISHED 1875

and at
21, HORSEFAIR,
BANBURY, OXON
Tel. 3299-5

WARWICKSHIRE

About 4 miles from Warwick and ½ mile off the main Birmingham-Warwick Road.
Suitable for private use, division, or country club.

GEORGIAN-STYLE HOUSE



Pleasantly situated in rural surroundings and comprising: Entrance hall, cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, fine billiards room, self-contained domestic quarters, first floor picture gallery, 7 bed and dressing rooms, 2 staff bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Main electricity. Central heating. Range of outbuildings, garages, stabling and loom boxes.

STAFF COTTAGE and
BUNGALOW

Very attractive grounds with productive kitchen garden and paddock.

NEARLY 5 ACRES IN ALL
PRICE £7,000 FREEHOLD OR NEAR OFFER

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, Banbury Office.

OXON—2 miles from BANBURY
CHARMING OLD GEORGIAN MANOR HOUSE

Recently the subject of considerable expenditure and now ready for immediate occupation.



Contains entrance hall, cloakroom, 3 fine reception rooms, 5 main bedrooms, dressing room and 2 bedrooms. Staff flat with bathroom. Range of stone-built outbuildings with garaging. Company's water, gas, electric light and power. Completely secluded walled garden.

ABOUT 1 ¼ ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD. NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, Banbury Office.

SUSSEX—KENT BORDER

In a secluded setting in a first-class residential area, undisturbed by any development.

A MAGNIFICENT COUNTRY MANSION

Situated in beautiful grounds with extensive views and ideally suitable for a high-class convalescent home or similar institution.

Comprising 4 fine reception rooms, 2 smaller rooms, 22 bed and dressing rooms, 5 bathrooms, excellent kitchen quarters, playroom. Garage and stabling block with 2 staff flats.

Company's water and electricity. Oil-fired central heating.
ABOUT 30 ACRES, including farmland.

THE PROPERTY IS IN EXCELLENT ORDER, HAVING RECENTLY BEEN THE SUBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE EXPENDITURE

and is at present in occupation as a private nursing home.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, as above.

ORMISTON KNIGHT & PAYNE

BROCKENHURST, HANTS. Tel. 3220

and at Ringwood, Bournemouth, Barton-on-Sea, Highcliffe and Ferndown.

GLORIOUS SITUATION IN THE NEW FOREST

Directly facing and overlooking the Forest close to shopping centre and main line station.

THIS ATTRACTIVE AND WELL-APPOINTED RESIDENCE



The property enjoys Forest Rights.

PRICE £7,500 FREEHOLD OR OFFER. EXECUTORS' SALE

In really first-class order and comprising: Lounge hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, sun loggia, very modern compact domestic offices, 6 bedrooms (h. and e.), 3 bathrooms, 3 attic rooms (easily shut off).

DETACHED COTTAGE. Garage for 3 cars, stabling, etc.

All main services.

Charming garden, grounds and useful paddock, in all about **4 ACRES**

FAVOURITE PART OF WEST SUSSEX AN OLD HOUSE MODERNISED AND ENLARGED

Secluded and standing high with good views.

Comprising:

Hall, drawing room, dining room, study, sun room, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, good kitchen quarters.

Central heating.

OUTBUILDINGS

GREENHOUSE

DOUBLE GARAGE

23 ACRES OF GARDEN, WOODLAND AND PADDOCKS

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, as above.

OXFORDSHIRE

4 miles from Banbury.



ATTRACTIVE OLD-WORLD STONE-BUILT COTTAGE

Hall, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, 3 bedrooms. Double garage. Garden about **1/4 ACRE**

£3,500 FREEHOLD

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, Banbury Office.

YORK 10 MILES

On the outskirts of a hamlet.

AN UNSPOILED EXAMPLE OF GEORGIAN ARCHITECTURE BUILT IN 1768 TO THE DESIGN OF JOHN CARR

THE HOUSE comprises entrance hall, cloakroom, fine 34 ft. drawing room, dining room, study and modernized compact kitchen quarters, 5 principal bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 staff bedrooms.

SELF-CONTAINED FLAT

Main water and electricity. Modern drainage. Central heating.

2 ranges of outbuildings.

ABOUT 30 ACRES of land, the majority being arable and including 4 acres pasture and 6½ acres of woodland.

PRICE £8,000 FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, Banbury or London.

HORSHAM
311/312

RACKHAM & SMITH

HENFIELD
22

CHARTERED AUCTIONEERS AND ESTATE AGENTS

SURREY—SUSSEX BORDER. NEAR EWHURST

Between Dorking and Guildford. 10 minutes by car to Cranleigh station.

HIGH UP FACING SOUTH IN A BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY DISTRICT PARTICULARLY WARM AND COMFORTABLE

A LOVELY FARMHOUSE OF CONSIDERABLE CHARACTER AND WITH EVERY CONVENIENCE

Spacious lounge and dining room. Magnificent modern music or playroom (32 ft. by 20 ft.).

Modern offices, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, full central heating. Main water and electricity.

Delightful garden, orchard and paddocks, **2 ACRES**. Barn, garage and other out-buildings.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Apply: RACKHAM & SMITH, 31, Carfax, Horsham (Tel. 311/2) and at Henfield (Tel. 22).



25, MOUNT STREET,
GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

SUSSEX. 1 HOUR LONDON

In rural country about 3 miles from Horsham Station.
Lovely unspoilt views to the South Downs.



AN OLD-WORLD SUSSEX FARMHOUSE

Recently modernised and the subject of heavy expenditure. Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 modern baths. New model kitchen with Aga. Mains. Central heating. Picturesque barn with ballroom. Double garage, paddock and arable land. **For Sale Freehold with 6 Acres.** Just in the market and highly recommended.

WILSON & CO.

GROSVENOR
1441

IN A POPULAR SURREY VILLAGE

Adjoining open country close to Guildford.
CHARACTER HOUSE SET IN CHARMING GARDEN

6 beds with basins, 2 baths., 3 reception. Central heating. Mains. Staff cottage. Garage and stabling.

IN WEST SUSSEX DOWNLAND VILLAGE A PERIOD HOUSE EASY REACH PULBOROUGH STATION

4-5 beds., 2 baths., 3 reception, staff annexe. Mains. Central heating. Good outbuildings.
FREEHOLD WITH 3 ACRES

HANTS. Adjoining Liphook Golf Course CHARMING MODERN HOUSE

6 beds., 3 baths., 3 reception. Oil-fired central heating. Ease. Strip floors. Double garage.
FREEHOLD WITH 2½ ACRES

TO BE LET UNFURNISHED

OLD-WORLD SURREY FARMHOUSE CLOSE TO WESTCOTT VILLAGE NEAR DORKING

5-6 beds., 2 baths., 3 reception. Self-contained cottage wing. Barn studio. Stabling. Cowhouse for 6.

3 paddocks. **ABOUT 5½ ACRES**

RURAL MID-SUSSEX

Close to good market town. Easy reach of coast.



SMALL MANOR HOUSE. NEARLY 150 ACRES.

Oak beams, panelling and other features. Modernised with main electric light and water. Central heating. 7-8 bedrooms, 3 baths., 4 reception.

T.T. AND ATTESTED DAIRY FARM

Cowhouse for 40. Pig farm. 2 cottages.
FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

4, CASTLE STREET,
FARNHAM (Tel. 5274-5)

H. B. BAVERSTOCK & SON

ESTATE OFFICES, GODALMING (Tel. 1722, 5 lines)

LIPHOOK, HAMPSHIRE

Overlooking farmland. Near golf course and station (Waterloo/Portsmouth line).



LABOUR-SAVING MODERN HOUSE, built in 1939. In sheltered position with rural aspect. 4 bed., bath., cloaks, 2 reception. Aga cooker and boiler. Immersion heater. Main services. Garage. Charming garden of $\frac{1}{2}$ ACRE. £3,000 FREEHOLD. POSSESSION Haalemere office.

FARNHAM, SURREY

In town centre, on cobbled approach lane to parish church. Waterloo approx. 1 hour.

ARTISTIC PERIOD COTTAGE

restored and modernised.

2 bedrooms, tiled bathroom, 2 reception rooms, modern kitchenette. Main services. Small walled yard.

FREEHOLD £2,500 WITH POSSESSION

Farnham office.

LOVELY FRENSHAM DISTRICT

Adjacent to village green; close to local shops, buses, etc. Farnham Station (electric to Waterloo) approx. 1½ miles.

MODERNISED COUNTRY RESIDENCE

4/5 bedrooms (1 basin), boxroom, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, garden room, cloakroom, complete offices. Part central heating. Main services. Independent hot water.

EXCELLENT MODERNISED COTTAGE

Large open shed suitable for garage. Matured gardens and grounds, incl. orchard, in all **2 ACRES**.

FREEHOLD £5,000 WITH POSSESSION

(including contents of cottage).

1½-acre paddock also available if required.

Farnham office.

GODALMING

Favourite residential locality, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the town and main line station. Waterloo 50 minutes.



DISTINCTIVE MODERN HOUSE built for the present owner with many later improvements. 4 bedrooms, luxury bathroom, hall, drawing room, dining room, loggia, labour-saving offices. All main services. Immersion heater. Excellent cupboards. Double garage. Greenhouse. **ABOUT $\frac{1}{4}$ ACRE. OFFER OF £4,650 SUBMITTED.** Godalming office.

MAIDENHEAD
BUNNINGDALE

GIDDY & GIDDY

WINDSOR, SLOUGH
GERRARDS CROSS

ABOVE GERRARDS CROSS



A BEAUTIFULLY FITTED MODERN RESIDENCE

In ideal surroundings. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom. Central heating. Garage. Large garden.

FREEHOLD £5,450.

GIDDY & GIDDY, Gerrards Cross (Tel. 3987).

WANTED TO PURCHASE

Messrs. Giddy & Giddy have received an enquiry from a gentleman who is anxious to purchase

A MODERN OR PERIOD HOUSE WITH SOME CHARACTER

The areas of

PEPPARD, HENLEY, WORGRAVE, WOKINGHAM

are particularly liked but the neighbourhood of EAST BERKSHIRE in general will be considered.

Accommodation of 5-7 bedrooms and 2-3 reception rooms is ample.

UP TO £10,000 AVAILABLE

Particulars of possible properties should be submitted to Messrs. GIDDY & GIDDY, Station Approach, Maidenhead (Tel. 53). Reference R.B.B.

COOKHAM, BERKS

AN ATTRACTIVE ROSE-CLAD MODERN HOUSE



enjoying perfect seclusion. Well appointed and easily maintained. 4 bedrooms (2 with basins), modern bathroom, 2 reception rooms, well-fitted kitchen. Partial central heating. 2 garages. Pleasantly timbered gardens.

FREEHOLD £5,250

Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, Maidenhead (Tel. 53).

HENRY SPENCER AND SONS IN CONJUNCTION WITH ESCRITT AND BARRELL

AN EXCELLENT FREEHOLD INVESTMENT

FOR SALE AS A WHOLE OR IF NOT SO SOLD TO BE OFFERED BY AUCTION IN LOTS IN THE SPRING

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

FREEHOLD AGRICULTURAL ESTATE AT SAXBY-ALL-SAINTS

2,485 ACRES

Comprising: 7 GOOD FARMS (with their cottages), OTHER GOOD AGRICULTURAL LAND, 2 COTTAGES WITH VACANT POSSESSION, SAXBY HALL AND GARDENS and OTHER VILLAGE PROPERTIES.

PRODUCING A NET ANNUAL RENTAL OF
£4,546 7s. 0d.

Full particulars from the Auctioneers: Messrs. ESCRITT & BARRELL, Elmer House, GRANTHAM, Lincs. (Tel. Grantham 1035-6); HENRY SPENCER & SONS, 20, The Square, RETFORD, Notts. (Tel. Retford 531-2).

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

HERTFORDSHIRE—SOUTH OF HITCHIN MODEL ATTESTED AND T.T. LICENSED DAIRY FARM ABOUT 175 ACRES FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

WELL BUILT MODERN RESIDENCE

HALL, DINING ROOM, LARGE LIVING ROOM, STUDY, 6 FIRST-FLOOR BEDROOMS AND 3 BATHROOMS
PLUS SECOND-FLOOR ROOMS

Complete central heating. Main electricity. Ample water.

Attractive gardens.

SMALL TUDOR FARMHOUSE

First-class modernised dairy buildings and 6 staff cottages.

FREE OF TITHE AND LAND TAX. GOOD ROUGH SHOOTING

Recommended by the Sole Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (J.42.131)

JUST AVAILABLE

OXFORDSHIRE—BERKSHIRE BORDER

On high ground about 5 miles from Henley and Reading. 9 miles Hungerford.

A PARTICULARLY CHARMING ORIGINAL TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE COMPLETELY MODERNISED TOGETHER WITH 32 ACRES OF LAND, BUILDINGS FOR SMALL T.T. HERD AND 2 COTTAGES



Main sitting room with lofty raftered ceiling,
2 other sitting rooms and dining room with
exposed timbering, 5/6 principal bedrooms
in suites with 5 bathrooms,
nursery suite with bathroom,
4 staff bedrooms and bathroom.

Modern kitchen.

*Main electricity and water. Radiators in all
principal rooms.*

Easily maintained secluded gardens with new
hard tennis court.

SMALL FARMERY

with cowhouse for 8 (T.T. standard).

Water to all fields.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

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THE ROYAL ALBERT SCHOOL, CAMBERLEY, SURREY

SUBSTANTIAL SCHOOL PREMISES WITH LAND FOR BUILDING DEVELOPMENT



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SHEEP FARM TO LET

2,200 ACRES, 16 ARABLE.

Beautiful situation and excellent road access.

The attractive sheep farm of SHIELTON, 3 miles south
west of Watten, Caithness.

IS TO BE LET FROM 28th MAY, 1955

Stock capacity about 250 Cheviot ewes, 8 cattle.

Present stock to be taken over at valuation on entry.

MODERNISED FARM HOUSE, 5 rooms and bathroom,
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WHO HAVE A DEPARTMENT SPECIALISING
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HANTS—WEST SUSSEX BORDER

A COMPACT DAIRY AND STOCK RAISING FARM OF 175 ACRES

WITH STONE AND TILED FARMHOUSE IN TRADITIONAL STYLE

2 complete suites of bedroom, dressing room and
bathroom, 2 further bedrooms, modern offices.

Extensive range of model licensed T.T. buildings with
standings for 16 cows; Danish piggeries; stabling;
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Foreman's cottage and 2 additional cottages, one let.

THE WHOLE EXTENDING TO ABOUT 175 ACRES

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BEST PART OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS**

KENT. 50 MINUTES LONDON.



Semi-rural position facing farmland and pretty woods.
In the Kentish farmhouse style and elegantly appointed.

Hall and cloakroom, 23 ft. lounge, 2 other reception rooms. Solid oak journeys. 6 bedrooms, 2 baths. Basins in 4 bedrooms. Esse cooker.

Partial central heating.

All public services.

DOUBLE GARAGE.

Most attractive garden intersected by small stream.

£8,500 WITH ABOUT 1½ ACRES.

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A GENUINE BARGAIN IN MID-DEVON

CREDITON. 8 MILES EXETER.



EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE SMALL, MODERNISED HOUSE

Secluded position on fringe of nice little country town.

ALL ON 2 FLOORS.

Rooms are bright and spacious. 4 sitting, 5 beds, 2 baths, and dressing room. Basin in main bedroom. Aga cooker and Agamatic boiler.

Partial central heating. All main services.

GARAGE.

Extremely pretty garden (quite a feature). Orchard and small paddock.

£4,500 WITH NEARLY 2 ACRES

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SMALL 13th CENTURY HOUSE IN KENT

EASY REACH WROTHAM, SEVENOAKS AND MAIDSTONE

26 MILES LONDON.



A home of more than ordinary charm.

Delightful position surrounded by farms. Bright, sunny and skilfully modernised interior. 3 rooms on ground floor, 1 of which could be extra bedroom. Kitchen with Esse cooker. 3 bedrooms and bathroom above. Agamatic boiler for central heating to 5 radiators. Main water, electric light and power.

LARGE GARAGE

Pretty garden with stream. Orchard and nuttrey.

£6,750 WITH 7 ACRES

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183, HIGH STREET AND BRIDGE STREET, GUILDFORD (Tels. 2884/5 and 5137) and CRANLEIGH (Tel. 200)

WORPLESDON—NEAR GUILDFORD

Quiet, secluded position with commons on 3 sides. Buses within a few minutes' walk. Excellent train services from Woking, Worplesdon or Guildford makes it ideal for daily travel to London.

A DELIGHTFUL FAMILY RESIDENCE

Forming half of a fine country house with vacant possession of

AN ATTRACTIVE LODGE

ENSURING AVAILABILITY OF DOMESTIC AND GARDEN HELP
The main house, modernised and added to, contains lounge hall with glass screen to large dining room, fine living room, cloakroom, compact offices with Aga, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Companies' main services. Septic tank drainage. Double garage. Fuel stores. Loose box.

ATTRACTIVE AND WELL-TIMBERED GROUNDS OF 1 ACRE WITH GOOD FRUIT GARDEN AND 2 GREENHOUSES.

PRETTY LODGE with 2 sitting and 3 bedrooms, bathroom.

ALL WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Also EXCELLENT COTTAGE of 5 rooms and bathroom let at £67 inclusive

EXCEPTIONAL VALUE AT £5,750

Guildford Office.

**SMALL-SCALE "COUNTRY ESTATE"
OF 30 ACRES**

HALF PASTURE, REST VALUABLE WOODLAND
KENT/SUSSEX BORDERS. 70 minutes London.

Rural, unspoiled setting between Ashford and New Romney. Not a "period" house but architectural style is Elizabethan. Charming interior with 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, nursery or playroom. Basins in 4 bedrooms. Esse cooker. Central heating. Main water, electric light and power.



SMALL FARMERY AND EXCELLENT COTTAGE.

EXCEPTIONAL VALUE FOR £8,500.

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AT FERRING-ON-SEA, SUSSEX
A MOST ATTRACTIVE RESORT

90 MINUTES LONDON.

150 YARDS FROM BEACH

High-class residential area between Worthing and Littlehampton.

**SINGULARLY CHARMING
SMALL AND WELL-APPPOINTED HOUSE**

In the traditional Tudor style but modern built and architect-designed. 18 ft. 6 ins. lounge, dining room, splendid kitchen. Oak floors, 4 beds (basins), bathroom.

MAIN SERVICES. GARAGE.

Compact, secluded garden (quite small but enough).

FOR SALE AT £5,850



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HANTS. BETWEEN PETERSFIELD AND LIPHOOK
LOVELY VIEWS TO FAMOUS SELBORNE HILLS

70 MINUTES LONDON.

A commodious house with finely proportioned lofty rooms and fully modernised interior.

3 reception rooms, "super" kitchen with Esse cooker, 9 bedrooms (most have basins), 3 bathrooms. Central heating. Main water, electric light and power.

STABLES. Garage with room over. Hard tennis court.

Well wooded grounds and protective woodland.



£7,500 WITH 6½ ACRES.

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EARLY APPLICATION ESSENTIAL TO SECURE THIS EXCEPTIONAL BARGAIN

A QUEEN ANNE HOUSE

10 MILES FROM OXFORD AND 13 MILES HENLEY
In a village and on bus route. Beautiful condition and charmingly appointed. 3 sitting, 3-5 bedrooms (basins in 2), new bathroom and latest sanitary fittings, Esse cooker and water heater. Main electricity. Garage, etc. Small formal garden, meadowland with frontage to picturesque Thames backwater, about

6 ACRES FREEHOLD, £8,150

Inspected and highly recommended.

FRESH IN THE MARKET

MOST SOUGHT AFTER SITUATION IN N. HANTS

Secured and protected by a green near Hartley Wintney.

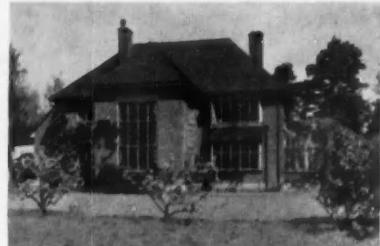
A BEAUTIFULLY APPPOINTED HOUSE of distinctly attractive half-timbered elevations with wide leaded-light windows and finely proportioned rooms, in first-class order and proudly sited on rising ground amidst a lovely garden. Cloaks, lounge hall and 3 other reception rooms, excellent offices, 5 bedrooms (3 basins), 3 bathrooms; oak floors, central heating, main services. Double garage and small bungalow; hard tennis court, orchard, paddock.

NEARLY 4½ ACRES FREEHOLD

Series of photographs available.

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WORTHING**MIDWAY SOUTHAMPTON AND SALISBURY**
*Situated on the edge of the New Forest in a well protected and sheltered site and bordering common land.***MODERN COUNTRY RESIDENCE****16 ACRES PRICE £6,750 FREEHOLD**

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SUITABLE FOR PRIVATE OR COMMERCIAL OCCUPATION

700 ft. up on outskirts of the town.

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STEYNING, SUSSEX*In an excellent position on the outskirts of this picturesque market town, close to the open South Downs and the sea. Brighton 12 miles.***AN EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-APPOINTED NEW HOUSE****PRICE £4,350 FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION**

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SOUTH HAMPSHIRE*Close to village and only a short walk to the sea.*
ATTRACTIVE OLD-WORLD COTTAGE RESIDENCE**PRICE £3,000 FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION**

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EAST SUSSEX*Occupying a superb position on high ground with widespread views over lovely undulating country.***A PICTURESQUE DETACHED RESIDENCE****PRICE £3,900 FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION**

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suitable as a horse or dog breeding establishment.

5 bedrooms (all with basins), 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, domestic offices.

**Central heating.
Main services.****DOUBLE GARAGE
STABLING**

Gardens and grounds include ornamental shrubberies, kitchen garden, woodland and arable, in all about

about

6 principal and 2 secondary bedrooms, bathroom shower annexe, 3 reception rooms, conservatory, kitchen and office. Gardens of 1½ ACRES.**GARAGE, 2 CARS
STABLING****Main services.**

Tudor-style 6-roomed cottage. Paddock of about

7 ACRES**TOTAL AREA
ABOUT 9 ACRES****VACANT POSSESSION**

For particulars, apply: FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300.

Carefully designed to incorporate every modern convenience.

3 good bedrooms (2 with wardrobes), very well fitted bathroom, large L-shaped lounge, cloakroom, exceptionally well-equipped kitchen which it would be difficult to surpass.

**Main electricity and water.
Modern drainage.****GARAGE**

Large garden.

PRICE £4,350 FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION

FOX & SONS, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel. Hove 39201 (7 lines).

Occupying a delightful position.**4 BEDROOMS
BATHROOM
LOUNGE 16 ft. by 11 ft.
DINING HALL
KITCHEN****Main electricity, water and drainage.****GARAGE**

Good garden.

PRICE £3,000 FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300.

of Tudor origin, having later additions and situated on the edge of an unspoiled village.

7 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, study, kitchen with Easle cooker and a second kitchen with fine old inglenook

**Main electricity.
Excellent water supply.
Septic tank drainage.**Greenhouse and outbuildings.
Gardens and grounds, in all over 2 ACRES.**PRICE £3,900 FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION**

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BRIGHTON
In pleasant residential district on the outskirts of the town and overlooking the park.
FINE DETACHED FREEHOLD CORNER RESIDENCE**Convenient for Preston Park (main line station)**

4 bedrooms (1 b. and c.), 2 well-equipped bathrooms, spacious lounge, dining room, study and well-equipped kitchen.

DOUBLE GARAGE

Pleasant garden.

**PRICE £6,750
FREEHOLD****OR WOULD LET UNFURNISHED AT £350 PER ANNUM**
Fox & Sons, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel. Hove 39201 (7 lines).**CLOSE BEAULIEU RIVER***Occupying a fine open position overlooking heathland with views to the Isle of Wight.*
Convenient for Beaulieu and Brockenhurst.**DETACHED FREEHOLD RESIDENCE****4 BEDROOMS
LINEN ROOM
BATHROOM****3 RECEPTION ROOMS
CLOAKROOM**

Kitchen with independent boiler.

Main electricity and water.**GARAGE****GREENHOUSE**

Well-enclosed garden.

**ABOUT 1/4 ACRE**

Fox & Sons, 32, London Road, Southampton. Tel. 25155 (4 lines).

SOUTH DEVON*Overlooking a small fishing village and commanding magnificent sea views from all principal rooms.***A BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED MODERN RESIDENCE****Constructed of stone and flint and containing the following conveniently planned accommodation.**

5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge 28 ft. by 21 ft., dining room 23 ft. 6 in. by 14 ft., study, cloakroom, kitchen.

Main services.**GARAGE 2 CARS**

Heated greenhouses. Attractive easily maintained gardens with lawns sloping to the cliff.

PRICE £8,500 LEASEHOLD

Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300.

**NEW FOREST***Occupying a secluded site about 3 miles Lyndhurst and within a short distance of village and railway station.***MODERN SEMI-BUNGALOW RESIDENCE****With well-planned and proportioned accommodation.**

4 bedrooms, bathroom, excellent hall, 2 reception rooms, loggia, kitchen with independent boiler.

**LARGE BRICK
GARAGE****All main services.**

Well-screened grounds of

ABOUT 1/2 ACRE**PRICE £4,500 FREEHOLD OR NEAR OFFER**

Fox & Sons, 32, London Road, Southampton. Tel. 25155 (4 lines).

SOUTH HAMPSHIRE*Commanding views to the Solent and Isle of Wight, 2½ miles from Lymington with its excellent yachting facilities, 6 miles from main line station with under 2 hours' journey to Waterloo.***GENTLEMAN'S T.T. RESIDENTIAL FARM****With most attractive modern house.**

4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, maid's bed-sitting room with bathroom.

Main electricity and water.**Central heating.**

Excellent range of buildings, cowshed for 15 cows, piggeries.

GOOD COTTAGE**50 ACRES of fertile pasture and arable lands in ring fence.****PRICE £16,000 FREEHOLD**

Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300.

41, BERKELEY SQUARE,
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Also at OXFORD
and ANDOVER

WEST HERTFORDSHIRE

Only 20 miles from London. Situated in rural surroundings.



ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY HOUSE

Hall, billiards and 3 reception rooms,
4 principal and 4 secondary bedrooms,
4 bathrooms.

Central heating.

Main electricity.

Private water supply.

EXCEPTIONALLY WELL FITTED AND
IN FIRST-CLASS ORDER

2 COTTAGES, GARAGES FOR 4

Simply laid out gardens, kitchen garden and
orchard.



IN ALL ABOUT 8 ACRES. FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION

Agents: LOFTS & WARNER, as above.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

GLOS.—WILTS BORDERS

Tetbury 5 miles. Chippenham and Cirencester 13 miles.

THE WARREN FARM, TETBURY

INCLUDING FARMHOUSE WITH 2 RECEPTION, 6 BEDROOMS,
2 BATHROOMS

MAIN WATER, ELECTRICITY (OWN PLANT)

COTTAGE, BUNGALOW

USEFUL FARM BUILDINGS

The land lies in a ring fence and extends to about

80 ACRES

FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION

BY PRIVATE TREATY OR BY AUCTION AT AN EARLY DATE

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HERTFORDSHIRE

In a charming old town, London (King's Cross) 40 minutes by fast train.

DELIGHTFUL GEORGIAN HOUSE

Entrance hall, 3 reception rooms,

6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

ALL MAIN SERVICES

OUTBUILDINGS

Attractive walled garden of about

1/2 ACRE

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: LOFTS & WARNER, as above.



GASCOIGNE-PEES

SURBITON, LEATHERHEAD, DORKING, REIGATE, GUILDFORD



OXSHOTT, SURREY

Under 10 minutes walk from the station and village.
A BEAUTIFUL GEORGIAN STYLE HOUSE, built on the crest of a hill in best part of this sought-after area. Superbly appointed throughout. Imposing lounge hall with cloakroom, charming lounge 27 ft. by 16 ft. with oak flooring, dining room, maid's sitting room, excellent kitchen, 5 main bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 staff rooms with bathroom. Central heating. Garage for 2-3 cars. **1 1/4 ACRES** lovely secluded garden with tennis lawn.

Apply, 4, Bridge Street, Leatherhead. (Tel. 4133-4)

A LOVELY NEW HOME

Select position opposite picturesque old Church at Fetcham, outskirts Leatherhead.

JUST BEING COMPLETED. Exquisitely fitted with best materials. Complete central heating, polished hardwood floors, flush doors. Warm brick elevation with tile hanging and lead lights. 4 bedrooms, 2 fine communicating reception rooms, first class tiled offices. Built in garage. **ABOUT 1/2 ACRE**. Only one available. **PRICE £6,450 FREEHOLD**.

Apply, 4, Bridge Street, Leatherhead (Tel. 4133-4).

GUILDFORD

Glorious situation facing National Trust Lands. On the gentle southern slopes of favoured hillside under a mile of the town centre is shortly to be erected a **DISTINCTIVE GEORGIAN-STYLE RESIDENCE** comprising artisitic hall with cloakroom, delightful through lounge, dining room, 4 bedrooms, well-equipped offices, brick garage. The **1/2 ACRE** site is considered to be one of the finest of the few remaining in this highly sought after locality. **PRICE ABOUT £5,750 FREEHOLD** according to specification.

Apply: 90, High Street, Guildford. Tel. 67377.

MERROW, NEAR GUILDFORD

Perfectly appointed modern family residence. Exquisitely placed on hill crest with uninterrupted southerly aspect and only 2 minutes' walk of the lovely Downs and golf course. The distinctive **ARCHITECT-DESIGNED DETACHED RESIDENCE** comprises: Impressive lounge hall with cloakroom, magnificent lounge 22 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft., dining room, study, 5 splendid bedrooms and luxury bathroom. Bright spacious kitchen with Aga and Trancio boiler, maid's sitting room. 2 garages. Easily maintained garden **ABOUT 3/4 ACRE**. **OFFERS INVITED FOR FREEHOLD**. Apply: 90, High Street, Guildford. Tel. 67377.

NOW BEING BUILT

2 architect-designed **DETACHED FREEHOLD HOUSES**. **ESHER**—in favoured spot on choice corner plots, these carefully planned **DOUBLE-FRONTED DETACHED HOUSES** with wood block floors to ground floor and providing 4 good sized bedrooms, dining room "through" lounge 18 ft. long, excellent kitchen 17 ft. by 10 ft. etc. Developers wishing to maintain character of neighbourhood selling at non-profit basis. Price expected to come out **AT £4,950** but might be less. Two other houses nearing completion in lovely situation at Oxshott. Apply: "Charter House," Surbiton. Elmbridge 4141.

SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY

of securing really good value. **MODERN DOUBLE-FRONTED DETACHED FAMILY SIZE RESIDENCE** with spacious well-designed accommodation on 2 floors only. Panelled lounge-hall 18 ft. by 15 ft., tiled cloakroom, panelled dining room, charming lounge with artistic stone fireplace, 5 bedrooms (wardrobe cupboards in some and basin in principal). Fully tiled offices. Brick garage. Medium-sized garden. Sought-after situation on London's S.W. outskirts, close all amenities. **ASKING ONLY £4,600 FREEHOLD**. Apply: "Charter House," Surbiton. Elmbridge 4141.

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WESTLAND HOUSE, 3, CHESTERFIELD GARDENS, CURZON STREET, W.I. Tel. GROvenor 3641 (6 lines).

In association with the other branches of RAWLENCE & SQUARRY

NORFOLK. THREE MILES FROM THE SEA



RESIDENTIAL ESTATE OF 56 ACRES AND PERIOD RESIDENCE
including the ruins of the first brick-built castle, in England, erected in 1434.
8 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, 3 rec rooms. CO'S ELEC. CENTRAL HEATING. Garages. Lodge, small lake and duck decoy. 3 acres owners. Shooting.
FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION. PRICE £9,500. Fol. 25110.

AGRICULTURAL LAND WANTED TO PURCHASE FOR INVESTMENT

LARGE BLOCKS OF FARMS

REQUIRED IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND and WALES TO ABSORB FUNDS OF
£50,000, £150,000 AND £350,000

NO COMMISSION REQUIRED.

Particulars in confidence to: COLLINS & COLLINS and RAWLENCE & SQUARRY, Estate Agents, 3, Chesterfield Gardens, Curzon Street, London, W.I. GRO. 3641.

Early sale desired.

PRICE REDUCED

SUSSEX
Easy reach Horsham, Haywards Heath and Brighton.

OLD ENGLISH CHARACTER HOUSE

Forming a charming home in a delightful setting, in perfect order. 5 best and 3 servants' bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, hall.

Main water and electricity. Central heating.

Excellent lodge. Lovely old gardens, with many fine specimen trees, immense cedar, etc., pond, paddocks. **IN ALL JUST OVER 12 ACRES PASTURE**
PRICE FREEHOLD £6,750 WITH POSSESSION Fol. 24902

44, ST. JAMES'S
PLACE, S.W.1.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

HYDE PARK
0911-2-3-4

Executor's Sale.

NEW FOREST

Magnificent views. Forest rights included.



PRICE FREEHOLD £7,500. 3 sitting rooms, 6 bedrooms (all with basins), 3 bathrooms, 3 attics, splendid offices. All main services. Double garage, stabling. Charming grounds, paddock. **4 ACRES IN ALL**

EARLY VACANT POSSESSION

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SUSSEX

Convenient for East Grinstead, Three Bridges and Haywards Heath. Buses to Lewes.
TO BE LET FURNISHED, TUDOR COTTAGE-RESIDENCE ON GENTLEMAN'S ESTATE

Available in March (preferably for 1 or 2 years).
2 sitting rooms, 5 bedrooms (2 basins), 2 bathrooms. Main electric light, radiators. Aga cooker, telephone.

RENT 8 QUINEAS PER WEEK

Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R.20725)

By order of Executors.

WILTSHIRE

In a good hunting centre. 1½ hours by express from Paddington. Bus service passes drive.

STONE-BUILT, FULLY MODERNISED COUNTRY RESIDENCE of medium size in first-rate order throughout.

Main electric light and power. Central heating—thermostatically controlled. Gas. Main water. 4 sitting rooms, 7 bedrooms (6 basins), 4 bathrooms, attics.

Fine range of garages and stabling. 3 first-class cottages (all with baths). Lovely grounds (well timbered) and several enclosures, total area about **16 ACRES**.

PRICE £10,250 OR £8,500 WITH ONE COTTAGE

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Executor's Sale.

CONVENIENT FOR

NORTHAMPTON AND BEDFORD

Fine views over surrounding country. 200 feet above sea level. Excellent bus service.



Sitting room, dining room, breakfast room, kitchen, 4 bedrooms (2 with basins), bathroom. Main water and electricity. Charming garden with summer-house. Garage.

PRICE FREEHOLD £3,750

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WINDSOR, BURNHAM
FARNHAM COMMON

A. C. FROST & CO.

BEACONSFIELD
GERRARDS CROSS

FULMER BORDERS

1½ miles Gerrards Cross in 2 acres mostly paddock and wood.

COTTAGE-STYLE HOUSE (1930)

4 bedrooms (basins), bathroom, 2 reception rooms.

MAINS. CENTRAL HEATING
GARAGE

Apply: A. C. Frost & Co., Gerrards Cross (Tel. 2277-8).

BEACONSFIELD

A MOST ATTRACTIVE NEW BUNGALOW
IN A WOODLAND SETTING

about 1 mile from the station.

2 double bedrooms, good lounge and small dining room. Well-fitted kitchen and bathroom.

COMPLETE CENTRAL HEATING. DOUBLE GARAGE

Garden about **1 ACRE** with little upkeep.

FREEHOLD

Apply: A. C. Frost & Co., Beaconsfield (Tel. 600-1).

WINDSOR FOREST

Opposite Windsor Great Park.

DISTINGUISHED COUNTRY HOUSE

in perfect decorative order, ideally situated in about **7 ACRES** of gardens.

8 bedrooms (4 with bathrooms en suite, the remainder with basins), cloakroom, lounge hall, 4 reception rooms (lounge 30 ft. by 20 ft.), modern domestic offices.

The outbuildings include:

GARAGE BLOCK FOR 5 CARS WITH MODERN FLAT OVER

EXTENSIVE CENTRAL HEATING

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Apply: A. C. Frost & Co., Windsor, Berks (Tel. 2580).

THE CHALFONTS

Gerrards Cross Station 1½ miles.

PLEASANT DETACHED BUNGALOW IN IMMACULATE ORDER

2 bedrooms, tiled bathroom, 2 reception rooms, etc.

MAIN SERVICES. QUALITY FITTINGS

Rateable value £15.

PRICE £2,750

Apply: A. C. Frost & Co., Gerrards Cross (Tel. 2277-8).

PENN

A SMALL COUNTRY HOME IN THIS FAVOURED AREA

500 ft. above sea level.

3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, bathroom.

MAIN SERVICES AND CENTRAL HEATING

GARAGE

Workshop, greenhouse. Pretty garden about **½ ACRE**.

FREEHOLD

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CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & EDWARDS

FOR WEST AND S.W. COUNTIES

1, Imperial Square, CHELTENHAM (Phone 53439)

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COTSWOLDS. BARGAIN £3,500

In a lovely large village.



BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER. SMALL MODERNISED COTSWOLD HOUSE OF CHARACTER, with walled garden of about **1.3rd ACRE**. Lounge-hall, 3 reception, 4/5 bedrooms, bath., etc.; modern kitchen. All main services. Garage and ample buildings.

Sole Agents, Cheltenham (as above).

SOUTH COTSWOLDS. £4,000

Near a small town.



A beautiful Queen Anne and 18th-century Cotswold Stone House, fully modernised and in excellent order, secluded in old gardens, with paddock, **3½ ACRES**. 5-6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception, modern kitchen. All mains. Garages and stables. Or with cottage and **4½ ACRES £5,500 (or offer)**. Apply, CHELTENHAM (as above).

CHELTENHAM 2 MILES

In lovely unspoiled surroundings at Charlton Kings.



A PERFECT SMALL COTSWOLD-STYLE POST-WAR HOUSE in rural setting, yet close bus and town. 2 rec. (one 20 ft. by 16 ft.), 3 bed. (one large), model kitchen and bath., etc. All mains. Garage. Park-like land as required from 5 to 43 acres, with or without farm buildings. **PRICE £7,000 WITH 10 ACRES**. Apply Cheltenham (as above).

RAWLENCE & SQUARY, F.R.I.C.S.

SALISBURY, LONDON, SHERBORNE, SOUTHAMPTON, TAUNTON

FIRST TIME IN MARKET FOR 24 YEARS

SOUTH WILTS—WYLYE VALLEY DISTRICT

15 miles Salisbury

GEORGIAN HOUSE IN PARKLAND SETTING



PRICE £8,500 FREEHOLD

Vacant possession, except 1 cottage.

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Personally inspected and recommended with every confidence.

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14 miles south of Salisbury.

A COUNTRY HOUSE OF OUTSTANDING MERIT AND CONVENIENT SIZE

Formerly a small Georgian Cottage, and now enlarged and converted regardless of expense. In perfect condition throughout with every modern convenience.

4 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, LOUNGE, DINING ROOM, STUDY, CLOAKROOM, NURSERY, MODEL KITCHEN.

Main water and electricity. Complete central heating by automatic gravity feed boiler.

Terraced garden, orchard and 2 paddocks, in all about **4½ ACRES**.

Model cowshed for 6. Garage.

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For the keen golfer. Close to shops and station.

MODERN RESIDENCE IN EXCELLENT CONDITION. 5 principal bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, hall with cloakroom. Staff quarters comprising bedroom, sitting room, bathroom. Central heating. Garage for 4 cars.

3/4 ACRE. £6,500 LEASEHOLD

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1/2 mile from beach and with views of estuary.

MODERN TUDOR-STYLE RESIDENCE. 3 main bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, lounge, dining room, breakfast room, kitchen, 2 staircases. Guests' suite of 2 bedrooms and bathroom. Garage. Charming garden on double plot.

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KENLEY, SURREY

High situation. 17 miles Victoria.

UNIQUE FAMILY RESIDENCE in lovely position, 4 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, sun lounge, kitchen, laundry, maid's bath. Garage. **1 1/4 ACRES** including tennis lawn, orchard and paddock.

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FLEET
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ALFRED PEARSON & SON

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ALDERSHOT
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COMPTON DOWN

Winchester about 3 miles.

FREEHOLD DETACHED RESIDENCE

**PRICE £4,000**

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ROOM, 3 RECEPTION
ROOMS AND USUAL
OFFICES

GARAGE

Main gas, water and elec-
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Cesspool drainage.

GARDEN ABOUT

1/4 ACRE

TO BE LET UNFURNISHED

COUNTRY RESIDENCE HANDY FOR MAIN LINE STATION

4 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms. Double garage. Main services. Lovely garden.

RENT £262 PER ANNUM

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WANTED

GEORGIAN OR QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE required in nice country area within 10 miles BASINGSTOKE. 8/14 bedrooms, 2-3 acres garden and up to **40 ACRES** of land for protection. **PRICE TO £10,000** according to condition. Usual commission required.

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Main line station 4½ miles. Waterloo 1 hour.

ATTRACTIVE MODERNISED 17th-CENTURY RESIDENCE. Compact accommodation comprising lounge hall, drawing room, dining room, domestic offices, 6 beds, 2 bathrooms. Excellent cottage. Double garage. Loose boxes. Atticated cowhouse. **22 ACRES** (part let). **FOR SALE BY AUCTION,** JANUARY 27, 1955

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High and healthy position.

A superior Detached Bungalow of pleasing design set in a lovely garden. Spacious rooms and modern conveniences. 2 bed, 2 rec., kitchen, bathroom, separate w.c. Garage. Heated greenhouse. 1 acre garden, including valuable building plot. Usual services.

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ASHTEAD, SURREY
Ideally situated for daily reach London.

Well-appointed Labour-saving Semi-Bungalow. Luxuriously fitted and in good order. Panelled lounge hall, 3 rec. rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, sun loggia, kitchen, laundry room. 2 garages, 2 heated greenhouses. Well-kept garden of **2 3rd ACRE**. All main services. Central heating.

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At foot of Southdowns in village centre, 4 miles Chichester and Bognor Regis.
GENUINE OLD FLINT COTTAGE WITH THATCHED ROOF

Situated in secluded surroundings, completely modernised, and in excellent order throughout.

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2 RECEPTION ROOMS
KITCHEN, BATHROOM
CONSERVATORY
GARAGE

Delightful garden with fruit trees.

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3 miles from sea and shopping centre. 2 miles station (Victoria 100 minutes).
DELIGHTFUL SECLUDED COUNTRY RESIDENCE

LARGE LOUNGE,
DINING ROOM,
KITCHEN,
4 BEDROOMS,
BATHROOM,
GARAGE.

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THE IMPORTANT TITHE FREE RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE.

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(Wareham 5 miles, Dorchester 12 miles).

WITH ABOUT 890 ACRES

mostly in hand.



A MODERN CLASSICAL RESIDENCE
WITH 4 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS,
6 SECONDARY BEDROOMS, 4 BATH-
ROOMS AND 3 RECEPTION ROOMS.
AMPLE COTTAGES.
SMALL FARM (let off).
ROUGH SHOOTING AND MUCH VALU-
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Over a mile and a quarter of excellent fishing
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TO BE SOLD PRIVATELY OR BY
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CURTIS & WATSON

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On the outskirts of an attractive residential village.

VALUABLE RESIDENTIAL T.T. DAIRY FARM

with charming architect designed Residence.

HALL, LOUNGE, DINING ROOM, 4 BEDROOMS (2 with basins h. and c.),
BATHROOM, DOMESTIC OFFICES with ESSE.

Company's water and electric light.

3 COTTAGES. EXCELLENT NEW SET OF BUILDINGS
with Gascoigne Milking Parlour, loose boxes, yards, etc., together with about
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VACANT POSSESSION

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HEREFORD—GLOUCESTER BORDERS

In the most fertile farming district amongst unspoiled countryside.

RESIDENTIAL ESTATE OF 300 ACRES

with Superior Farmhouse Residence.

3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 5 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, MODEL DOMESTIC
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Central heating. Electric light. Ram water supply.

FIRST CLASS SET OF FARM BUILDINGS ADAPTED FOR PEDIGREE
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BAILIFF'S HOUSE, 6 COTTAGES.

VACANT POSSESSION

STRONGLY RECOMMENDED. Apply Alton Office.

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XVIIth-CENTURY COTTAGE
On the southern slopes of the Kennet Valley. Only 8 miles from Reading. Beautifully modernised and in good order.



Large lounge, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchenette.
Central heating, e.l. and power. Garage. Attractive
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PRICE £4,950 ONLY
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Ideal for School, Hotel or Institution. 21 bedrooms,
7 bathrooms, 5 large reception rooms. Good domestic
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delightful grounds with tennis courts and swimming
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with other portions of the estate in EARLY SPRING**

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In conjunction with JAMES PHILLIPS & SONS, Minehead.

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On high ground amidst delightful country, yet within easy reach of High Wycombe (London 30 miles).



EXCEPTIONALLY WELL APPOINTED MODERN
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1½ ACRE
PRICE £3,950 FREEHOLD
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Established
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CRAWLEY, SUSSEX, and HORLEY, SURREY

Tel. Nos. Crawley 1
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About 5 miles Haywards Heath, in delightful locality.



7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, kitchen,
Eesse cooker, etc., and servants' sitting room.
ALL SERVICES, INCLUDING CENTRAL HEATING
Garage for 3 cars. Outbuildings. 3 excellent cottages.
Superb garden. Small lake. **ABOUT 5 ACRES**
PRICE £10,500 FREEHOLD

WANTED TO PURCHASE

WITH VACANT POSSESSION IN THE SPRING

BANSTEAD, BURGH HEATH, ASHTead
WALLINGTON, TADWORTH

HOUSE OF CHARACTER

6-7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Good
outbuildings. 1 or 2 cottages and

40-50 ACRES

PRICE ABOUT £15,000 FREEHOLD

Usual commission required.

Particulars to MR. G. K., WM. WOOD, SON & GARDNER,
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About 3 miles Horley main line station (London 35 minutes). Situated in delightful surroundings.



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Accommodation: 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception
rooms, kitchen. Polished oak floors.

ALL SERVICES, INCLUDING CENTRAL HEATING

Garage 2 cars. Stables.

Good outbuildings and excellent grounds, in all about

4 ACRES
PRICE £6,250 FREEHOLD

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CHORLEYWOOD and LOUDWATER
Enjoying magnificent views.

AN EXTREMELY CHOICE COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER. 5 beds., bath., 3 reception, breakfast room, kitchen, etc. 2 garages. Tennis court. Most delightful grounds. **PRICE £8,750 FREEHOLD.**

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EAST MOLESEY

Overlooking Hurst Park Race Course.

MOST DELIGHTFUL MODERN COUNTRY RESIDENCE ENJOYING EXCLUSIVENESS
6 beds., bath., 3 rec. Usual offices. Garage, $\frac{1}{2}$ ACRE.
FREEHOLD £6,800 OR NEAR OFFER

BECKENHAM

Most convenient position.

A BEAUTIFULLY-APPOINTED DETACHED MODERN RESIDENCE IN EXCELLENT ORDER
5 beds., bath., lounge/hall, 3 reception, etc. All services. Part central heating. Double garage. Delightful garden.
FREEHOLD £7,750

ESHER

On the beautiful Esher Place Estate.

MOST ATTRACTIVE DETACHED HOUSES OF CHARACTER
(Seven only) shortly to be erected.

4 beds., bath., 2 rec., etc. Usual offices. Garage. Good gardens.

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VALUERS

PINNER HILL

Immediately adjacent and with direct access to golf course.



AN EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE DETACHED RESIDENCE in a secluded position. 5 beds., 2 bath., 2 reception. Usual offices. All services. Central heating. Garage, $\frac{3}{4}$ ACRE.
PRICE £7,500 FREEHOLD

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WEYBRIDGE
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WEST SURREY

HASLEMERE
GUILDFORD
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WEST BYFIELD

WATERLOO 36 MINUTES

First-class residential area between Weybridge and Woking.



CHARMING MODERN/COTTAGE STYLE HOUSE
with 4 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, bathroom, cloakroom, garage.

$\frac{1}{2}$ ACRE secluded garden.
£6,250 FREEHOLD

Immediate sale required, any reasonable offer accepted.
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A COMPLETELY LABOUR-SAVING FAMILY HOUSE

Principal rooms face south and enjoy a magnificent panoramic view to the Hog's Back and Merrow. 1½ miles Woking. (Waterloo 27 minutes.) Buses pass entrance.



3 reception, 4 principal, 3 secondary bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, staff sitting room, kitchen, flower laundry room, heated linen room, all main services. Automatic central heating. Brick double garage. Workshop, greenhouses, summerhouse. **FOR SALE FREEHOLD**
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NEAR AYLESBURY AND ON A GOOD BUS SERVICE BETWEEN
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(Oxford Office)

Stone and tiled property
with the following
accommodation:

3 reception rooms, good
domestic offices, 6 bed-
rooms, 2 bathrooms, etc.

GOOD OUTBUILDINGS
AND GARAGE

Garden extending to ONE
AND A THIRD ACRES

Main water and
electricity.

£4,950 FREEHOLD

EAST COTSWOLDS APPROACH**A 4-BEDROOMED RESIDENCE OF MUCH CHARM**

In a village lying in one of the lovely valleys near the Rollright Stones.

The stone-built house, with Stonesfield slate roof, faces south and has 2 reception rooms, kitchen (ideal boiler), scullery and old bakehouse. Modern bathroom on first floor and loft above.

GARDEN AND ORCHARD OF 1 ACRE STRETCHING TO STREAM

Double garage and open shed.

£4,000

(Apply Banbury Office)

BANBURY 5 MILES**A REALLY ATTRACTIVE VILLAGE RESIDENCE**

Stone-built with Stonesfield slate and thatched roof. 2½ bedrooms (space for another), bathroom, 2 reception, kitchen and garden room, ideal garden with lawns (including former tennis court), kitchen garden, garage, etc.

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Low rateable value.

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TUNBRIDGE WELLS (0966), KENT, RYE (0155), HEATHFIELD (0333), AND
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Near small Chartered Town with main-line station.

COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER (former Dower House of Estate).
6 beds., bath., 3 rec., main services. $\frac{1}{4}$ ACRE. Panoramic views.

FREEHOLD £5,000. POSSESSION

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Open views of timbered country.

PLEASANT MODERN RESIDENCE

Brick and tile, large rooms of good pitch.
4 bed., bath., 3 rec., kitchen (Rayburn). Main water and elec. Garage (2). Flower and kitchen gardens.

£3,750. POSSESSION. Small farmery and 12 ACRES available.

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DELIGHTFUL COTTAGE RESIDENCE

In picturesque garden with river and waterfall.

ONLY 4 MILES CANTERBURY.

3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 rec. rooms, etc. Main water and electricity.

$\frac{1}{2}$ ACRE. **£2,950. POSSESSION**

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Tel.: Horley, 100/1.

NEAR REIGATE**AN EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE AND CONVENIENT
MODERN BUNGALOW**

Secluded in its own delightful garden of 1 ACRE. Lounge (21 ft. by 15 ft.), large dining hall, sun room, 3 double bedrooms, luxurious bathroom, fully tiled and well-fitted kitchen. Low rates. Central heating and main services. Large garage, outbuildings. **FREEHOLD £4,500 (OFFERS CONSIDERED).**

**IDEAL FOR FURTHER CONVERSION
INTO AN ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY COTTAGE**

And situated in delightful countryside between Horsham and Ruster, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile station. Detached Brick Building affording accommodation for 4 bedrooms, large lounge dining room, bathroom, kitchen. Situated on its own with drive approach and

ABOUT $\frac{3}{4}$ ACRE. FREEHOLD £3,500.

A FEW COUNTRY BUNGALOWS

New being built in delightful unspoiled situation on Surrey-Sussex borders.

2 miles main-line and on bus route. Not on an estate and with large gardens of at least $\frac{1}{2}$ ACRE. Large lounge, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom, separate w.c., large kitchen (Crane boiler). Main services.

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Overlooking the lovely Thames Valley. London 30 miles, Maidenhead 5 miles, High Wycombe 5 miles, Henley 7 miles.

THE FREEHOLD AGRICULTURAL AND RESIDENTIAL ESTATE

"BLOUNTS,"

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300 ft. above sea level, on gravel and chalk
sub-soil.

EXCEPTIONALLY LOVELY
MATURED GARDEN AND
GROUNDS

GARAGES FOR 5 CARS

OUTBUILDINGS

3 FIRST-CLASS MODERNISED
COTTAGE RESIDENCES



A CHARMING PERIOD RESIDENCE

Lounge hall, study, smoking room,
dining room, breakfast room, fine
drawing room, billiards room.

8 principal bedrooms and dressing rooms,
2 maids' bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 w.c.s.

CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT

Excellent Domestic Offices.

WELL-EQUIPPED ATTESTED FARMERY WITH FIRST-CLASS BUILDINGS.

Productive arable, pasture land and
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IN ALL 130 ACRES

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY WITH FULL VACANT POSSESSION

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Specialists in the disposal of

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SEVENOAKS, KENT
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FARMHOUSE-STYLE COUNTRY HOUSE

On a southern slope 3 miles from Sevenoaks.



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In a triangle formed by
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A charming modern
Residence amidst beau-
tiful country. 4 bed-
rooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 re-
ception rooms, radiators.
Main water and electricity.
Double garage.

About 1 ACRE
FREEHOLD £4,950

Inspected and recommended
by IBBETT, MOSELY,
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OLD RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER

Unique situation, due south aspect overlooking golf links, sheltered to the north by Box Hill and North Downs.

SURREY. Between
Reigate and Dorking, 2½
miles London. 6 bedrooms
(4 h. and c.), bathroom,
4 reception, model kitchen
and offices.

Main services,
2 acres, orchard, etc.
River frontage. Strongly
recommended.

Freehold.

Vacant Possession.
(Cottage annexe available)

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3 miles main line station,
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**Delightful Kentish
Farmhouse**

with original beams, panel-
ling, etc., restored and
modernised.

6 bedrooms, bathroom,
3 reception, garage.

Orchard, garden, and
paddock.

ABOUT 1½ ACRES

REASONABLY PRICED AT £6,250 FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION



Apply Tunbridge Wells office.

ESTATE HOUSE,
KING STREET,
MAIDENHEAD

AT THE FOOT OF THE CHILTERN
ABOVE HENLEY



SUPERB MODERN HOME IN 4 ACRES. Beautifully built and appointed, with 3 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, model kitchen. Garage. Complete central heating from automatic boiler. Main electricity and water. Wealth of old timbering, and in excellent order. Delightful views. **FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION.**

Agents: CYRIL JONES & CLIFTON, F.A.I., as above.

WANTED TO PURCHASE
IN AREA BETWEEN READING, WOKINGHAM,
HENLEY, MAIDENHEAD.

COUNTRY HOUSE OF CHARACTER.

7-9 bedrooms, 3-4 reception rooms, about 3 acres. Preferably Georgian.

PRICE ABOUT £10,000

USUAL COMMISSION REQUIRED.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

16 miles London.

OLD QUEEN ANNE RECTORY

In secluded position on outskirts of village.

8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Stabling, garage and **3½ ACRES.**

OFFER OF £5,000 INVITED

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Maidenhead
2033
(3 lines)

BORDERING THE GOLF LINKS
TWIXT MARLOW AND BEACONSFIELD

High on the Chilterns.



ATTRACTIVE SMALL RESIDENCE. Lounge hall, and 2 reception rooms, billiards room, 4 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom. Main services. Delightful garden.

£4,750 FREEHOLD

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A SEA VIEW. ELEVATED BUT NOT EXPOSED

Convenient BRIDPORT/LYME REGIS.

DETACHED BUNGALOW

1/2 RECEPTION, 3/4 BEDROOMS, KITCHEN, BATHROOM, GARAGE. SMALL NATURAL GARDEN. **RECOMMENDED AT £2,800**

SHERBORNE/WINCANTON (BETWEEN)

MODERNISED STONE PERIOD COTTAGE AND OLD FORGE

2 RECEPTION, KITCHEN, 3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM. DOUBLE GARAGE. ATTRACTIVE GARDEN. **£2,950**

SHERBORNE/YEOVIL (5 MILES)

SECLUDED MODERNISED STONE-BUILT COTTAGE

Sunny, sheltered position.

Hall, living room 21 ft. by 18 ft. 6 ins., kitchen with Rayburn, cloakroom, 3 double bedrooms, bathroom, 2 rooms adjoining suitable for conversion. Useful range of outbuildings. **3½ ACRES.**

RECOMMENDED AT £4,250

NEAR ILMINSTER IN A PLEASANT VILLAGE

CHARMING STONE-BUILT COTTAGE RESIDENCE

2 RECEPTION, KITCHEN, 3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM and W.C. GARAGE.

SMALL SECLUDED GARDEN. SERVICES.

£3,250 OR OFFER

NEAR WINCANTON

UNUSUALLY ATTRACTIVE STONE AND TILED COTTAGE RESIDENCE

2 RECEPTION, KITCHEN, 3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM and W.C. GARAGE.

WORKSHOP, etc. SMALL EASILY MANAGED GARDEN.

BEST OFFER OVER £2,000

Chartered Surveyors,
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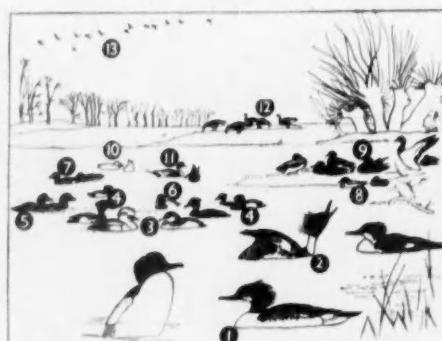
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Shell Nature Studies EDITED BY
JAMES FISHER

NO.
I**JANUARY Wildfowl**

IN THE MIDST OF WINTER some wildfowl begin their spring. Unexpected and graceful is the queer courtship of the ducks. Watch lakes and reservoirs where the migrants court and pair before the long flight north. Goosanders (1) and red-breasted mergansers (2) may go no further than Scotland, but the smaller, handsome smew (3), most often seen in Britain, perhaps, on the great reservoirs that serve London, is bound for its nest-hole in some forest-tree of Lapland or northern Russia. These three are 'sawbill' ducks, which dive for their fish. Also diving ducks are our native tufted duck (4) and pochard (5). A drake scaup (6), perhaps from Iceland, floats among the pack of tufted. The surface-feeding ducks spend much of the day asleep on the bank. Widgeon (7), teal (8), mallard (9), shoveler (10) and pintail (11) all nest in some part of Britain. Britain's two commonest wild geese are seen grazing on peaceful water-meadows, or moving, in skeins, to new feeding-grounds. The white-fronted goose (12) breeds in Western Siberia: nearly all the world's pink-footed geese (13) come from Iceland to winter in Britain.

Painted by Maurice Wilson in collaboration with Rowland Hilder



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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXVII No. 3027

JANUARY 20, 1955



MISS MARGARET NORTON

Miss Margaret Norton is the daughter of Major-General C. H. Norton and Mrs. Norton, of The Park, Nottingham

COUNTRY LIFE

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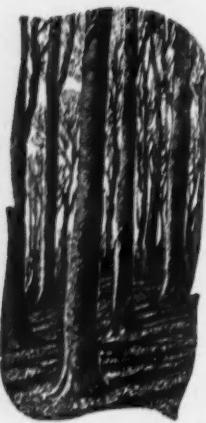
HOUSES AND FOOD

WHEN agricultural land is taken for house building it is always assumed that there is an absolute loss in food production. There is obviously a loss of farming land, but the new gardens will in time produce vegetables and fruit that may be worth as much in money value, and, no doubt, health value, as the farm crops grown on the land. This is the conclusion which can be drawn from figures in a survey that the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has made. For some reason, which will, no doubt, be discovered when Parliament meets again, no report has been published, but the matter is of sufficient public interest to warrant proper presentation of the survey results, although they may not be fully representative for the whole country.

According to a correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* who has been allowed to see this report, the survey covered five county boroughs—Bristol, Doncaster, Hull, Southampton and York—and shows that the larger the garden the greater the proportion used as a vegetable plot. On housing estates developed at a density of about eight houses to the acre the average amount of land under fruit and vegetables is more than half as much again as on neighbouring sites at about twelve houses to the acre. The greater density of building was recommended to local authorities partly in order to save the loss of food-producing land, and it is strange now to have this reckoning that from an acre of land developed at a density of twelve houses to the acre an annual yield of food-stuffs worth about £67 10s. at retail prices is being produced. Where the gardens are bigger still more food would be produced from the acre taken for a housing site.

There is not a straight comparison with the value of the farm produce when land is in agricultural use, because the Ministry's reckoning is in terms of retail vegetable and fruit prices, and there is a big difference between the price which the commercial food producer receives, whether market gardeners or general farmers, and the price at which the housewife buys the final product in the shops. Taking farm values, the market garden has an output of £100 or more an acre, while the output of the dairy farm is nearer £55 an acre and the general mixed farm £45 an acre.

There are other considerations besides food production that decide the size of the garden plots allowed on housing sites. Not all the tenants want to exert themselves in working a garden, and many prefer to have just enough ground for a flower-bed or two and a small plot of grass. Even so the Ministry of Housing



should be pressed, now that a version of this survey has been published, to present a proper report, and its value will be enhanced by the comments of the Ministry of Agriculture, which is especially concerned with problems of land use.

There is nothing in this which should be allowed to weaken the determination of the Ministry of Agriculture to preserve for farming use land that is of high agricultural value in a district where there is poorer land not so intensively farmed that could be allocated to house building. A farm should be a planned entity, and the loss of one field may upset the economy of the whole enterprise. Everyone expects the British farmer to lower his unit costs of production and so limit the subsidy burden falling on the taxpayer. He must be allowed, if he is doing his job properly, to continue to enjoy the use of his whole farm without constant anxiety that a housing authority may exercise powers of compulsory acquisition to take one or two fields that are essential to him.

DIAMOND JUBILEE

THE celebration of the National Trust's Diamond Jubilee last week will bring many congratulations and good wishes and, it may be hoped, many more members and more donations.

A SHAFT OF SUN

SET on a hillock, farm and trees seemed ironed,
A transfer, flat against the cloud-dark sea,
A formal decoration neatly turned,
Unfeeling, with a slick dexterity.

The sun came out in a heart-warm smile of delight,
And the blue sea laughed aloud as the dark spell broke.
Trees danced. The window-panes twinkled with bright-eyed sight
And the chimneys flew their feathery flags of smoke.

J. PHOENICE.

The achievement of sixty years may be astonishing, but, as last year's annual report explained, there are still large deficits in some individual Trusts to be covered and the financial solvency of the Trust as a whole depends largely on individual subscribers and benefactors. Only once, ten years ago, when the Chancellor of the Exchequer agreed to give pound for pound with the public up to £60,000 for the Jubilee Fund, has the Trust received money from the State. At present it has the dual task of being a model landlord on an unprecedented scale and making good the accrued dilapidations of the war years. The fact that it ranks as a charity with immunity from income-tax and has privileges regarding estate duty no doubt encourages people to think that it is State-maintained. This, however, is a complete delusion. The rate of expansion of the Trust and its work is due, as everyone knows, largely to the social changes brought about by the taxation of the last thirty years. In 1914 the Trust owned 5,500 acres and had 725 members. By 1939 both membership and responsibilities had increased tenfold. During the war, the acreage doubled again, but the membership rose by only 700. Ten years ago it stood at 7,000 with an ownership of 107,000 acres. To-day the number of members is roughly 50,000 and the acreage owned well over 200,000. The number of historic houses in its care is at least a hundred, and it administers, through its area agents, over 800 farms. Such achievements can scarcely be maintained without steady support from those who know them to be worth while.

NEW TOWNS' PROGRESS

DURING the Second Reading debate on the Bill providing further funds for the development of the New Towns, the Minister gave satisfactory assurances that in general things were going well, and housing and industrial development being kept well in step. This reassuring statement is now reinforced by more particular reports appearing in the January issue of *Town and Country Planning* and dealing with individual towns in turn. Basildon, we learn, has had a minor industrial boom, and the difficulty has been to build sufficient houses to keep pace with industrial expansion. At Crawley

expansion of all services is keeping pace with general development and a pedestrian-way scheme for twenty-four shops has been established. Harlow's early fears of a shortage of industry have now been dispelled by highly satisfactory expansion during the last twelve months. At Corby the first factory was opened last February and four new factories are now in production, employing some 300 persons, mainly women. At Hatfield the rate of development has been somewhat restricted by the construction of the Colne Valley sewer now completed; Glenrothes reports that the development Corporation's building programme has been retarded by lack of policy decisions at Government level relating to the direction of future development. Social and recreational amenities are said to be lagging behind population increase at Stevenage, and this was one of the subjects dealt with by Mr. Deedes during the Second Reading of the New Towns Bill, when he promised that greater help will everywhere be forthcoming from the Government for the building of social and recreational centres and that the local education authorities would now have a free hand in providing for playing-fields.

SAVE THE CANALS !

THE Inland Waterways Association, of which Sir Alan Herbert is chairman, may be excused a certain display of feeling at their Annual General Meeting, where they heard for the first time an explicit summary of the Transport Commission's proposals for the gradual abandonment of English canals. Like many other associations who have something to preserve—the Council for the Preservation of Rural England is a good instance—they have done their most effective work by discovering plans or plots in hand in bureaucratic circles and bringing them into the light of day before it is too late. The Commission's plans for next year, it would now appear, envisage the abandonment of about 800 miles of canal. The only effective resistance comes from the Inland Waterways Association, who maintain that this country's canals can be turned into a paying proposition, and a source of much enjoyment and healthy recreation, if only the Commission's abandonment programme is dropped and capital and energy made available. For many years the idea that they are completely outmoded has been publicised by the railways, and the other nationalised industries apparently will not give them a thought; even when it is established that coal could be delivered to a generating station for many shillings a ton less by canal than by road. Apart from these—obviously most important—economic considerations, the Association is convinced that the use of canals for pleasure as well as transport is the way to make them pay. They suggest that the best way to do this is to set up a national Inland Waterways Commission, distinct from the Transport Commission, to take over all existing canals and run them as a unified system.

DEER IN SCOTLAND

POWERFUL support for the growing demand for close seasons for red deer in Scotland is given by the Council of the Fauna Preservation Society, of which Lord Willingdon is president. In a clear and temperately worded statement on the recently published official report they unhesitatingly plump for the majority report—which the responsible Ministers declined to put into effect—which means that they want close seasons, regional control boards, the classification of deer as game, strict control of the supply of frozen venison during the close seasons and the extermination of marauding deer. They admit that there is still room for argument about the number of deer the country can support, but maintain that this point cannot be used to justify the "unrestricted, haphazard and wanton slaughter" that goes on at present. It should, they say, be settled later, and they suggest that the Government should compromise by declaring its intention to introduce close seasons within a definite time, say, three years, during which the parties concerned could compose their differences. The proposal has been made before, without any response, so far as we are aware, from the farming interests, but it is, nevertheless, a good one, and should be pursued.

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By IAN NIALL

OUR gallant Leghorn cock gets grander every day until he looks fit to top a weather-vane, with his head held high, his breast protruding and his fine hackles sitting as beautifully as any artist could wish. The sheen of condition is upon him and he knows what a fine fellow he is. His pride might have brought his head to the block in years gone by, for we always culled the finest, youngest and healthiest of the cocks for the table and he is in the days of his prime. He is still master of the harem. A Light Sussex that seemed to be dwelling too long about the simple business of laying an egg, and had a particular look in her eye, came under suspicion the other day. We had been considering the purchase of a brooder to foster some day-old chicks. In fact, we were almost wading in catalogues, had compared prices and types and had picked a site for the brooder when purchased. It was a question of deciding finally whether a brooder is a piece of equipment we can put to good use or not. The Light Sussex put catalogue-handling out of fashion and we returned to sounder economics. Broody hens are hard to get. They are getting as rare in some places as Manx cats. When this particular bird continued to sit, it seemed very likely that she had gone broody, and so it turned out.

One morning she refused to leave the nest and instead let out a ladylike protest that brought the Leghorn cock scuttling across the yard and into the fowlhouse to peck the hand that feeds him. He could not permit such a thing to happen to one of his wives in such a condition. It was more than he could stand, and he was headed, for we have great respect for him and his gallantry. The Light Sussex sits at this moment on a "hatching" of china eggs. In due course we shall provide her with a brood of day-olds. Woe betide her if she does not do what a brooder would do. If the cock is safe from the cooking pot, this Light Sussex wife may not have such immunity. Two more sacks of oats and a bag of pellets have been entered in the accounts book and the rule is written up: "No results, no food." We cannot spare corn for non-producers—the cock excepted—and the broody one must serve one purpose or another.

A FRIEND who lives in the West of Ireland wrote to me the other day and said he was thinking of moving his home. His requirements seemed to be exactly what he already had—a bit of very good fishing and a thousand acres or so of rough shooting with enough woodcock and snipe to satisfy his considerable skill with a gun. Never having had the fortune to be able to live anywhere for the sake of the sport I love best, I was astonished at my friend's restlessness, but I wrote and told him my idea of the place in which to live. It was at once in Cumberland and Devon, on the Lune, the Tweed and the Tay as well as the Test. It had all I ever want—good fishing, trout I love to catch and salmon I hope to master. I elaborated to put a house with open hearths in my picture—and oak logs and peat to burn. I added a nice little country town within reasonable distance and a mountain and a moor or two. By the time I had finished I had fairly well described the whole country, for I could live in almost any part of it.

The search for a place in which to live, when the situation is not limited by conditions concerned with earning a living, can be an absorbing thing. One acquaintance of mine has spent a good part of his life searching, settling down once-and-for-all and then moving on to somewhere that seems to have some advantage previously missing. The gipsy takes over.

Quite a different thing is that search for a



E. M. Bormann

BUZZARDS COMING IN TO LAND

sunny corner that brings a man back to his native heath and a home in once-familiar surroundings. This is perhaps the most difficult dream to make true. The country changes a great deal in thirty or forty years and people grow away from each other. The new scene is never satisfying to a sentimental memory. When I think about it I could live anywhere, but I have a desire for a good lake with a stream I could fish on my way home.

EVERY man to his trade is a saying that few people really heed. If they did, trees would rarely be pruned, hinges oiled, or chimneys swept, as they are sometimes swept in country places, by means of a gorse bush, a length of rope and a suitable stone. I was reminded of this when I came across the remains of a gunstock I once tried to fashion from a piece of well-seasoned wood. Half-way through the task, which had by then taken several weeks, I found the business of fitting the locks in the wood more than I could neatly manage—something requiring a machine or a better craftsman than I could ever hope to be—and I gave up.

Before I did so I read a book on how to polish wood. I could already French-polish in a way that few amateurs could, having had lessons in the art from a master. The book told me that sheer hard work was the secret of wax-polishing and getting a satisfactory depth to the mirror surface. This fascinated me. I broke off my efforts to fit the gunstock and tried polishing with beeswax and spirit. A wonderful polish can be obtained by the application of elbow grease, but one must be a philosopher to polish wood. I polished for some hours and then laid it all aside and had a gunsmith fit a stock for me later. It is not good to think too much of the things attempted and left undone. I picked up my half-made gunstock and took it in for the fire, musing as it smouldered on the good job I had done as far as I had gone, perhaps because I used a set of fine gouges inherited from an old and highly skilled wood-carver.

BIRDS have all got hard, inquisitive eyes that show no more than a cool interest in the plight of man, but it is that very thing about birds that I like. The robin that perches on the spade or picks food where I have been digging tolerates me. Inwardly I am delighted and charmed that it has decided that I am not to be

frightened. The crow knows mankind too well to decide that any but a very select number of his kind can be trusted. I have, to my regret, taught jackdaws that I am mean and no better than the next man in refusing them a home in the chimney-pots. The wagtail that comes flashing over the wall to pick his way across the yard with his jerky and bouncing gait convinces me that he does not mistrust me as an individual but that he does as mankind. Some birds that know man very slightly are not afraid of him, but in others the lesson has been a long time in the teaching. He is a creature to be feared on most occasions.

Once, when I was particularly interested in the relationship of man and birds, I found a small bird among the reeds at the side of a lake. It was newly fledged and I was surprised when I put my hand forward and was able to pick it from its perch. The unusualness of this almost convinced me there and then that a strange power had come to me, but when I examined the bird I found it had a small growth on its skull. There was an amusing sequel to the capture for, being unable to identify the bird, I decided to take it to the other side of the lake and show it to a friend before releasing it again. I put the captive gently into my pocket and made my way round the lake, encountering on the way an elderly lady who was sitting by the water keeping an eye on her husband's creel. We exchanged a few polite words about the weather, and as I was about to go the bird flew out of my pocket. I gaped, decided it was better not to go into a long explanation and hurried on, conscious that I had left behind me a woman absolutely speechless with astonishment and wondering. I was sure, just how many other birds I had in my pockets.

HAVING written this on a very cold day, I went to the window to discover a flock of redwings in the garden. It is an odd thing how hungry predators become in cold weather and how their prey, losing strength, warmth and their wits, become easy to catch. Before long I expect to find evidence of slaughter. Three years ago the fate of the redwings was tragic. Not only did they die in almost every bush and shrub, but they were preyed upon by the stray cats of the neighbourhood as well as all the hunters of the hedge, stoats and hawks. Now, with fewer rabbits, these "tame" birds will have a harder time.

A FLAMINGO MYSTERY SOLVED

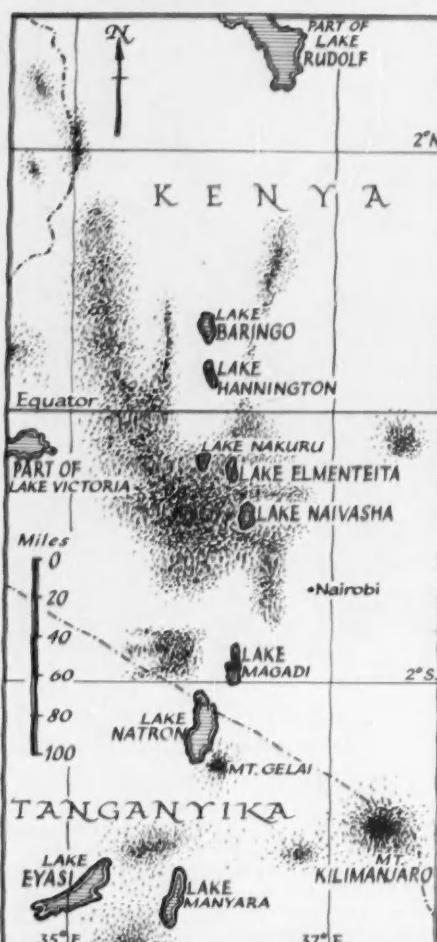
NESTING GROUNDS OF THE LESSER FLAMINGO ON AN EAST AFRICAN SODA LAKE

Written and Illustrated by LESLIE H. BROWN

THREE are certainly between two and three million flamingoes on the alkaline lakes of the East African Rift Valley, and there may be as many as five million; nowhere on earth do they congregate in greater numbers. From early times they have been one of the sights of Kenya Colony, and they remain so.

Most are lesser flamingoes, an East African species *par excellence*, but the greater flamingo, bird of the Camargue, North Africa and India, also occurs, stalking the shallows head and shoulders above its smaller cousin. The lesser flamingoes are not less beautiful and occur in the proportion of a hundred or more to one greater; they are also even more specialised. Their plumage varies from delicate pale pink to a deep rose, with crimson on wing-coverts and brilliant red legs. The bill—red with a black tip—is not quite as grotesque as that of the greater flamingo, but is equipped with a far finer set of filtering combs, or lamellæ, with which the flamingoes sieve microscopic algae and diatoms from the water. The greater flamingo often feeds on the bottom, immersing the whole head and neck; the lesser species subsists on the top inch or so of the water, and for quite long periods a lesser flamingo can live off the produce of no more than 30 square yards of alkaline lake. Indeed, they can live in no other water for any length of time, and there is practically no other living creature—and certainly no other large living creature—which subsists as they do.

Very remarkable birds indeed, and a worthy study for ornithologists, quite apart from their beauty; yet very little studied, so little that the latest text-book can say, "There is no bird of their size and numbers in accessible parts of the world about which so little is known." Julian Huxley, many years ago, expressed astonishment at the absence of interest displayed by the inhabitants



LAKES ON THE KENYA-TANGANYIKA BORDER WHERE THE AUTHOR SEARCHED FOR NESTING FLAMINGOES

of Nakuru in the 500,000-odd flamingoes which then inhabited the lake of that name.

Nowadays Lake Nakuru often dries up, but the flamingoes can always be found on Lake Elementeita, while Lake Hannington is their great stronghold. When, as in 1953, there is a big concentration on Hannington the spectacle beggars description. In the early morning the soapy-smooth blue-green waters of the lake are dotted with moving pink, and as the day wears on the pink birds gather at the edge in an unbroken strip, from two to two hundred yards deep, and in places so massed as to form a solid sheet of colour. Walking along the shore, one is never out of sight of their flashing red wings or earshot of the sound of their feet paddling the water as they take off. They must have fresh water (though another of their peculiarities is that they do not mind it boiling hot) and all the biggest concentrations are round the freshwater springs and geysers that are the lake's main water supply. To set out to count the masses at these places is almost hopeless, and all one can do is to guess at area and density. The largest mass I estimated in 1953 consisted of about 720,000 birds, crammed four to the square yard, and covering an area of about 40 acres of shallow water and mud. To sit in a hide close to one of these huge flocks is an experience no ornithologist should deny himself; despite the torrid heat—and it is torrid—to be within 30 ft. of a thousand flamingoes and to watch the flashing colours of individuals against a pulsating background of pink, resonant with the endless murmuring, gaggling clamour of half a million birds, is almost beyond belief.

The great mystery has been: where do these two million birds lay their eggs? The text-books are vague; Van Someren says "breeds on Lake Nakuru in great numbers,"



PART OF A COLONY OF ABOUT 5,000 OLD NESTS OF LESSER FLAMINGOES ON LAKE HANNINGTON IN 1953



LESSER FLAMINGO BREEDING COLONY ON LAKE HANNINGTON IN 1953. The birds built 3,300 nests, but laid no eggs

but gives no detail. They have certainly not bred on Nakuru in great numbers for many years now, and there appears in fact to be only one authentic record. Odd records come from Elmenteita, Kikerongo in Uganda and elsewhere. The Masai and other local people say the birds produce their young in the water; young certainly appear, apparently from nowhere, fully able to fly. A bird of mystery indeed!

In 1953 I found about 5,000 old nests on Lake Hannington, and kept the birds there under observation, hoping they would breed. In October I was delighted to find them beginning to build colonies in the true flamingo manner, making a truncated cone of mud 6 to 15 ins. high and about 10 ins. across the top. One colony numbered about 500 nests, and in November I found five eggs laid in a small colony of 25 odd nests. This small group had no chance against the pressing throng of hundreds of thousands of flamingoes, but I had better hopes of the 500. The birds in that colony were reluctant to move and I did not disturb them, thinking them certain to lay. But no! In December I found this colony abandoned, while the birds had started to build a much larger colony which, when complete, totalled about 3,300 nests. Surely, I thought, this time they will lay. I could not return, but Lord William Percy later visited the colony and found that the nests had been deserted without sign of laying—there was not even a broken eggshell. These observations indicated that it was likely that there had been many false rumours in the past, for it was now evident that flamingoes

could build their nests and go through all the motions of their amazing communal display, only to do nothing in the end. The mystery remained.

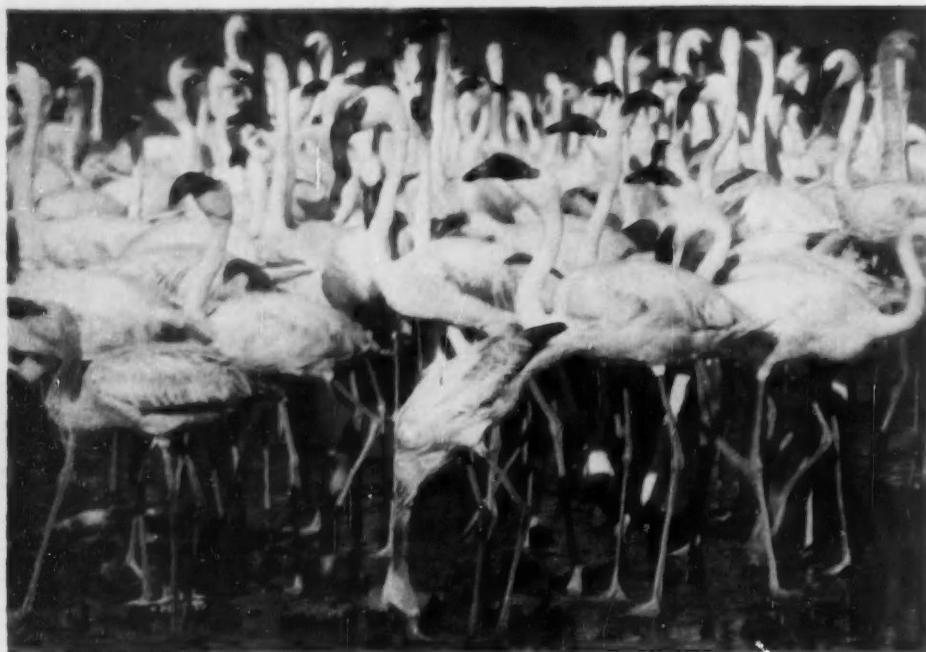
It was evident, in any case, that that vast throng of birds could not be bred from the few thousand nests built at Hannington; there must be big breeding colonies elsewhere, or else the flamingo must live for hundreds of years. Strange though the bird is, objective reflection rendered the latter supposition unlikely and when, in June, 1954, I found Lake Hannington populated by a

mere twenty or thirty thousand of the birds, I guessed that the good rains might have stimulated them to go elsewhere to breed. There was only one practicable way of investigating this with limited spare time—aerial survey—and I planned a flight over the possible breeding grounds, in Kenya and Tanganyika. Of these I thought the remote Lake Eyasi most likely, with Lake Natron a good second and the other alkaline lakes "also ran."

It often seems that one is obstructed, for no good reason, from carrying out a plan, and



LESSER FLAMINGOES CONGREGATING AT THE MOUTH OF A STREAM TO DRINK. At this fresh water 80,000 drank nightly in March, 1953



LESSER FLAMINGOES DRINKING. The smaller ones streaked with grey in the foreground are immature birds

for one reason or another I had to put off the flight for weeks. Yet, when we came to carry it out we could not have done it on a better day.

Space does not permit a description of the wonderful scenery we passed over, or of the game we saw. But on Lake Natron we found the answer to our immediate quest. On the southward flight we saw a few thousand young in the water, in herds of 50 to 1,000, each chick clad in grey down and the size of a hen. Near them, on a soda flat, three or four miles from the nearest shore, were many other herds of chicks, and we saw groups of scattered nests two and three together, which, we thought, were all we should see. But on the following day, on the northward flight, we again passed over the soda flat and there, extending for possibly two miles, was a long string of young flamingoes, trekking across the burning hot, dry soda in a fixed direction which would lead them to the freshwater springs at the foot of Mount Gelai. They must have set out that day, and had we been a few days later or earlier we might have missed them. It was a staggering sight, for the young were all by themselves, deserted by their parents, wandering across the flat in groups of several hundred together, joined by chains of singletons and twos and threes, with other isolated herds on the flanks. Clearly they all knew where they wanted to go, but it is a mystery how, for at their level they could have been aware only of shimmering heat haze and mirage around them—which would equally have prevented us from seeing them had we searched from the shores.

Following the string of young, we passed first over the scattered nests seen the day before and then found—a dark patch on the white expanse of soda—a huge colony from which most of these young must have come. Like the Hannington

colonies of 1953, it had long strings and clumps of nests close together at a density of 15 per 10 square yards, but it extended, I guessed, over not less than 10 acres and must, therefore, have contained about 50,000 nests. It was now entirely deserted, left high and dry by receding water and abandoned, perhaps only that day, by the thousands of young we had seen on their forlorn trek across the soda. But not far away were newer colonies almost as extensive near the edge of the foul alkaline water. In these the chicks were much smaller, and still being tended by their parents. These young varied from the size of a partridge to helpless new-hatched creatures, and some nests even had eggs—only one in each. It was evident that as soon as the young could walk they left the nests for the water's edge,

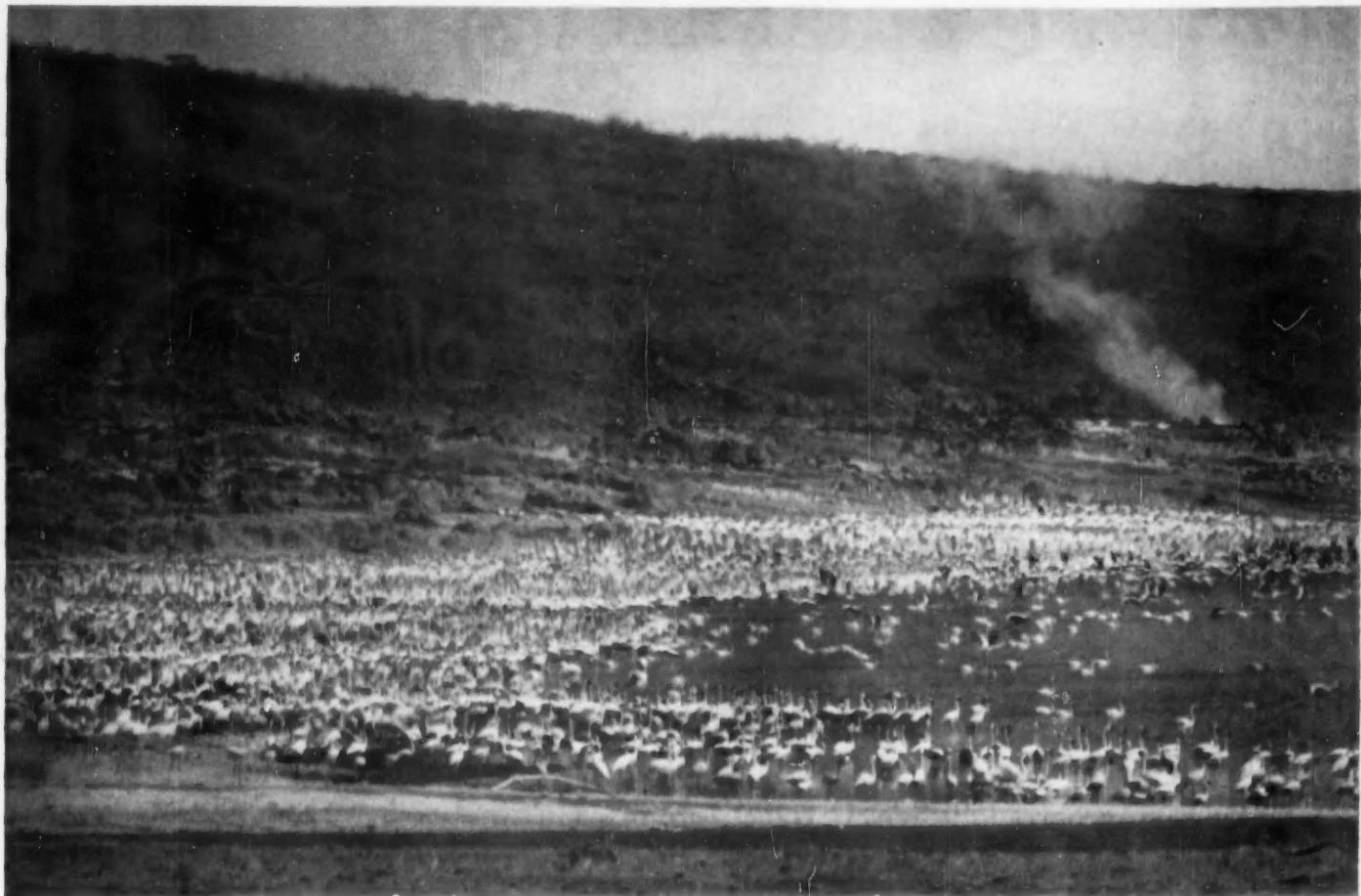
and even here the colonies were being left high and dry.

As we circled over them I strove to grasp, as best I could from the small and bouncing 'plane, as many details as possible of the extraordinary scene. I noted the variations of down colour of the chicks as they aged, identified the species of scavenging birds on the colonies' edge and, best of all, made the unexpected and wonderful discovery that greater flamingoes were also breeding there, in at least two groups totalling perhaps a couple of hundred pairs, and recognisable from their lesser kin by their paler colour, greater size and the brilliant flashing vermillion of their wing coverts. I could forget that I was lying on my side a few hundred feet above one of the most inhospitable spots on earth and, when we left, not wishing to disturb the birds unduly, I knew that in a quarter of an hour's flight we had made a notable ornithological discovery and viewed an astounding scene never before known to man.

Two weeks later I attempted to reach this colony on foot, and in doing so met with an experience quite as unforgettable as that memorable flight, but much less pleasant. I had to cross an arm of shallow water which I, mistakenly in the mirage, thought had dried. For some distance all went well, and I made fair progress in gumboots, walking on a crust of solid soda overlying black, stinking mud. Then, where the water grew deeper, I began to crack through the crust, but could still proceed as long as the mud beneath was wet and not too tenacious. It was towards the other side that the trouble began; here the soda crust had curled up into polygonal plates with raised edges, like giant waterlily leaves, and in attempting to walk along these raised edges I often cracked through. The mud beneath was of a tenacity never experienced anywhere before, though I am a keen wild-fowler and have met with some notable mud. As I struggled to draw one boot out in would go the other, and pieces of the solid soda crust got inside both; the soapy water was as hot as one would have liked for one's bath, and the sharp soda



PART OF A HERD FEEDING. The bill, which is used as a sieve, is submerged in the top inch or two of water and swept from side to side



THE SPECTACLE OF A BIG FLOCK OF FLAMINGOES. All these birds had drunk from the boiling stream of fresh water emitted by the geyser in the background

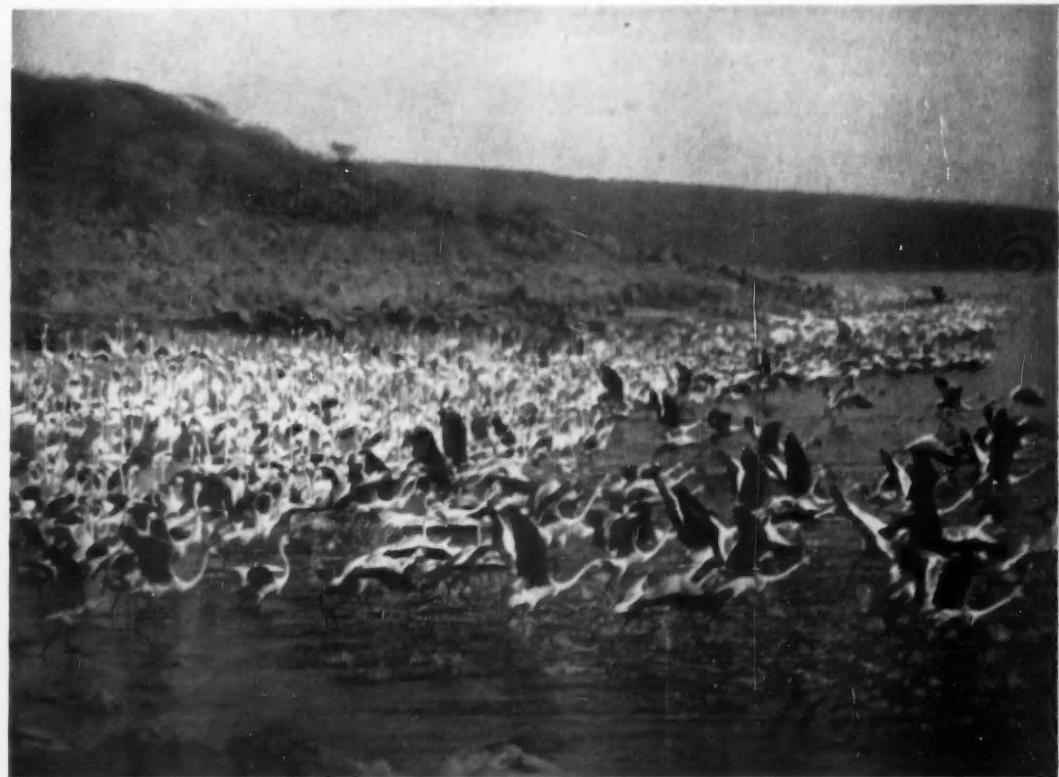
crystals tore my skin. Add a sun temperature of 120 degrees or more, glare almost beyond bearing and the knowledge that the water in my canvas water-bottle was shrinking and becoming impregnated with soda, and you have my predicament. A young flamingo ran mockingly over the vile soda floes as I floundered, and at length I was forced to realise that I must go back, for even if I succeeded in reaching the dry soda flat and the colony, I might well be too exhausted to return across this terrible place. So I turned and went back—a struggle beyond description in which many times I felt I could not go on.

Suffice it to say I did eventually get out and reached the dry soda near the eastern shore as near dead as alive. I could then pay attention to my feet, which I found to be covered with large bright red blood blisters which, as I watched them, turned black. They were the beginning of severe sepsis and ulcers caused by the soda, which laid me on my back for five weeks. I felt that I had lifted the veil in the 'plane, but had been sharply punished for doing so by the guardian spirit of that place.

Still, the veil had been lifted, and a major breeding ground of the lesser flamingo found, together with the first known colonies of greater flamingoes in East Africa. We know now that 100,000 to 150,000 pairs of lesser flamingoes bred on Lake Natron in 1954, and it remains to be discovered whether

they have bred there regularly since time immemorial and whether there are other large breeding grounds used from time to time. This can be established only by patient observation over the years, and the quest now becomes more like work and has less of the first keen thrill of discovery. Some day I hope to set foot on that soda flat and to see a colony at

close quarters, but I shall be more cautious another time. At any rate, it seems improbable that anyone without special equipment will ever reach that harsh nesting ground, and the lesser flamingo, if not quite the bird of mystery it was, will be able to preserve its secrets from all but very determined men.



PANICKING FLAMINGOES CHURNING THE WATER WITH THEIR FEET AS THEY TAKE OFF

LIFE OF A HIGHLAND SHEPHERD

By KATHARINE ASHWORTH

EVER since he was a boy of fifteen, Angus MacKinnon, like his father and grandfather before him, has shepherded his flocks on the mountains of Ben Dronaig (the Eagles Knoll), Craig dhu Mor (Big Black Rock) and the salt flats lying down below at the head of Loch Carron. Over this area of Ross-shire he walks on an average twenty miles a day, and sometimes as much as thirty miles, which is not surprising in view of the fact that he has to cover seven miles before he even reaches his own ground on the far slopes of Ben Dronaig.

The age-old craft of shepherding, by its very nature, shows little change down the centuries; but in the last few years Angus has seen a great improvement in both the value of sheep and the conditions of shepherds' lives. Sheep which in 1939 were sold for £2 or £3 apiece now fetch £5 or £6, and a fleece which in pre-war days sold for 5s. is now worth 25s. or more. Of 200 sheep which he recently sent into Inverness on behalf of the owner, some fetched as much as £7, and of 50 rams sent to the Ram Sale at Dingwall the average price was £40. His responsibilities have also increased as his flock has risen from the pre-war figure of 800 to the present one of 1,600.

On the privileged occasions when I have been allowed to accompany Angus and his sheep-dogs, Don, Shorty and Tim, high up on the mountains among the blown spray of the milk-white waterfall skeins, or down on the salt flats, where the air is full of the wild cry of sea-birds and the honking of grey laggeese, I have realised to the full the experience which is necessary for his many-sided task and the dangers to which sheep are continually exposed.

During these rounds we have come across at least one sheep lying on its back which, but for the strong hand of Angus, would have lain there helpless until it died, the weight of its fleece, especially if wet, preventing it from rising. Then there is usually a sickly one to watch from day to day, and in his pocket Angus always carries a variety of cures, knowing from long experience just what to administer; but for the more serious sheep diseases, such as braxy or louping-ill, injections may be necessary. There is little foot-rot on this rocky northern ground, but it does sometimes occur among the flocks down on the marshy ground at the head of Loch Carron.

Here, too, is a special danger for sheep which come down from the mountains to get away from the clouds of flies and midges which plague them there, and who, in search of the sweet grass below with its tasty tang of salt,



ANGUS MACKINNON, A SHEPHERD OF THE NORTH-WEST HIGHLANDS, WITH HIS SHETLAND SHEEP-DOG.

wander far out on the green tongues of land and narrowing sand pits. As the tide turns the water creeps insidiously around them, and there they would be trapped and drowned if they were not driven back up the mountains in good time. This is a daily task for which Angus must adjust his work according to the time of the tides.

Apart from golden eagles, which sometimes swoop over from the Torridon mountains and carry off a lamb or attack a sheep which may have become wedged among the rocks, the greatest danger to sheep is still their cunning enemy the fox.

The fox will seldom attempt to take away a sheep or lamb for its own needs, being satisfied, after the killing, merely to suck its blood, though strangely enough it usually takes away the tail or an ear. It is at lambing time, which coincides with its need to feed a litter of cubs, that the menace of the fox is at its height, and it is ever on the watch to take a lamb. It first kills the lamb by the throat, and then picks it up by the back of the neck, slinging it over its

shoulder to carry the weight of the body on the journey back to the den.

At this time it is necessary for the shepherd to keep a constant vigil. Night after night in early spring, Angus is out on the mountain-side with his gun, watching for the first sign of danger, the warning of which is usually given by the sheep themselves, for, as the fox approaches the vicinity, they become restless; then, as it draws nearer, they put up their heads and give a strong whistling noise through the nostrils. This sign generally comes just before daybreak, and often the inherent curiosity of the fox is its undoing; for, as the first light of dawn glints on the gun-barrel, it cannot resist peeping round a rock or over a ridge to discover the source of the shining object, and in that moment falls to Angus's expert marksmanship.

Another method by which he deals with the fox is to set his dogs—and he maintains that cairns are best for this—to find the vixen's track from her den, after which there is a long wait for her return, since she often leaves her cubs for hours at a time.

In all his thirty-five years of shepherding, Angus has only twice been in danger himself, once in exceptionally high winds, when, strong man as he is, he was lifted clean off his feet on the summit of Craig dhu Mor and almost blown over a precipice, and another time when he became lost in thick mountain mist which completely obliterated his surroundings. He wandered for hours until, coming across some sheep and examining the letter stamped on their ears, he knew he was on his neighbour's ground and from there was able to find his way home.

Being inured to fatigue by his long daily round, he does not tire easily. Even during snowstorms and long days spent in rescuing sheep from deep drifts, he never allows himself to rest, knowing only too well how such a lapse might end.

I asked, as we continued on our way, if he ever saw any unusual sights among these mountains, but, no, he considered everything he saw came within his daily work, an occasional golden eagle, a pine marten, otters chasing salmon in the River Carron, seals basking on the islands of the Loch. And then, of course, there were a few wild goats; but they were getting scarce, and in recent years he had seen regularly only the two fine billy-goats which used to stand and stare down at him from a ridge high above his head, and a few months ago even they had disappeared over the



THE SHEPHERD MINDING HIS FLOCK AS THEY GRAZE IN THE VALLEY



"TWICE A YEAR THERE IS A GREAT ROUND-UP OF SHEEP"

mountains towards Applecross, and he did not know what had become of them.

Occasionally he meets a tramp taking a short cut across the mountain, but more and more rarely does he see that fast disappearing nomad, the pedlar, with his basket over his shoulder containing his assorted wares, eager to give news of places he has come from and to glean more to carry on ahead.

With his deep love of animals Angus was much more ready to tell me about the deer he comes across at all times of the year on these desolate mountains, and of the strange companionship and understanding which exist between them. They are used to him and sense he will not harm them; even the hind is not unduly disturbed when he picks up a tiny newborn calf to fondle it. She drops her young just on the bare mountain-side and roams quite a distance from it, always, however, keeping her eye on it and if danger approaches will bound to its side.

Twice a year there is a great round-up of sheep, when the shepherds help one another in the task of driving down the flocks, and on these occasions Angus and six assistants spend



WITHOUT THE STRONG ARM OF ANGUS, A SHEEP LYING ON ITS BACK WOULD LIE THERE TILL IT DIED

three days up in the mountains, where they live and sleep in a substantial stone bothy. First, at midsummer, there are the washing, shearing and dipping to be done, the counting of sheep and the marking of lambs; and then in the autumn comes the second round-up for the sales at Inverness.

It is a hard life in winter among these grim, snow-clad mountains, but Angus values his liberty and freedom above all else. Although on occasions he gazes somewhat wistfully at the sleek cars purring their way along the road from Strom Ferry to the far north, and thinks it must be very nice to be "oot o' the wund and the haer, and to be carried along so easily like that through the countryside," he does not really envy them, especially if they have to live and work in cities.

Angus, leaning on his crook and gazing out over the waters of Loch Carron, told me the same thought had often occurred to him and that, like Caleb, "in his heart he knew it was true."

In winter evenings there is always a welcome by his wife to their spotless stone cottage, where the warm spicy smell of the glowing peat fire mingles with the delicious taste of home-made butter, girdle scones and hot tea topped with cream from their own cow. While we sit and talk, Angus selects from the half-dozen partly finished crooks in the corner behind his chair the one he is working on at the moment, and, while his hands are busy, explains the art of fashioning and shaping it.

First, in winter when the sap is down, a carefully chosen hazel-rod is cut from the banks of the River Carron, the thick end or root being a block roughly the size required for the handle. Usually a long search is necessary to find a suitable one, and even then it must be put aside for a year to give it time to dry. When the time comes for work to be commenced, Angus alternately holds it to the fire and then gently bends it against his knee until, holding it up horizontally and looking along it, he can see it as straight as a gun barrel. After this he hangs it for the night from the ceiling so that its own weight shall set the straightening out process.

The handle must first be cut with a hand-saw, then the more delicate work continued with a fret-saw, the final fashioning being completed with a knife. The right size and shape



THE SHEPHERD MUST KEEP AN EYE ON THE TIDE WHEN HIS SHEEP ARE FEEDING BY THE ESTUARY

I expressed the conviction that they were probably envying him, and that money made in cities was often striven for in order ultimately to enjoy the very peace and beauty which were his every day. "Aye," he agreed, "that must be so," because whenever he has to go to Inverness the noise makes his head go round and he always comes back with a headache; so he could not imagine what it must be like for folk in places like London.

A deeply religious man, he is sometimes troubled that in this Sabbath-abiding community he is rarely able to go to church, but I quoted to him the words of Caleb Bawcombe in *A Shepherd's Life*, how after a long interval he went to the Sunday morning service in his native village and the vicar preached a sermon on true religion. Just going to church, the vicar said, did not make a man religious. Out there on the downs there were shepherds who seldom saw the inside of a church, who were sober, righteous men and walked with God every day of their lives. And with a deep conviction

required for its principal purpose of catching a sheep or lamb by the neck must, of course, be kept in mind. Then comes the smoothing down of the surface with three successive grades of sandpaper, coarse, medium and fine, the final polishing being carried out first with a piece of glass, then with the dried bone of a sheep's leg, and completed by rubbing over with spirits of varnish and shellac. The beautiful and highly-finished article, straight as a ram-rod and with the lovely curves of the crook a glowing saffron yellow, proves Angus to be the perfect master of his art.

It was during one of these evenings that he summed up the unchanging love of the shepherd for his work in words almost identical with those of old Caleb: "I don't say that I would want to have my life over again because 'twould be sinful. We must take what is sent. But if it was offered to me and I was told to choose my work, I'd say, Give me my mountains and lochs again and let me be a shepherd there all my life long."

CONIFERS OF CHARACTER

By A. G. L. HELLYER

CONIFERS are not fashionable to-day and few write about them, except to complain that the Forestry Commission is destroying the beauty of some of our loveliest hill scenery by planting coniferous instead of broad-leaved trees. Yet there is a great deal to be said in favour of good conifers, and most of our fashionable 20th-century woodland planting would be impossible were it not for the fine legacy of coniferous trees left us by our Victorian ancestors. For the moment, however, I am not so much concerned to urge the increased planting of the commoner species of pine and fir as to plead the cause of some of the more dramatically decorative trees, such as the spire-like *Picea Omorika* and the superbly weeping *Abies Breweriana*. These are trees that are too striking in personality to be planted in the mass. To make their full effect they need to stand alone as specimens, not necessarily isolated in the sense of having no close neighbours, but certainly without neighbours which in any way detract from their unique effect.

Abies Breweriana is not a particularly quick-growing tree and unfortunately it does not acquire its full beauty until it attains some size. At first it is not unlike many another fir—a good, broad-based cone of deepest green with short branchlets that hang down. As the tree grows so do these pendant branches until they form dense hanging curtains of growth unparalleled by any other plant I know.

Picea Omorika is about as different as it would be possible to imagine—a straight narrow shaft of green which seems little broader at the bottom than 50 feet or more up. Finally it tapers off to a point and in this respect differs from the equally narrow but more blunt-topped spire of *Libocedrus decurrens*, yet another of the many fine conifers that I would like to see freely planted again, as they were 50 or 60 years ago.

Pinus Ayacahuite is almost as irresistible as *Abies Breweriana*. There is, indeed, only one pine that I would rather see and that, unfortunately, is too tender for general planting in this



A GOLDEN FORM OF LAWSON'S CYPRESS THAT HAS MADE A FINE TREE IN 20 YEARS IN THE GARDENS OF VILLA TARANTO, PALLANZA, ITALY

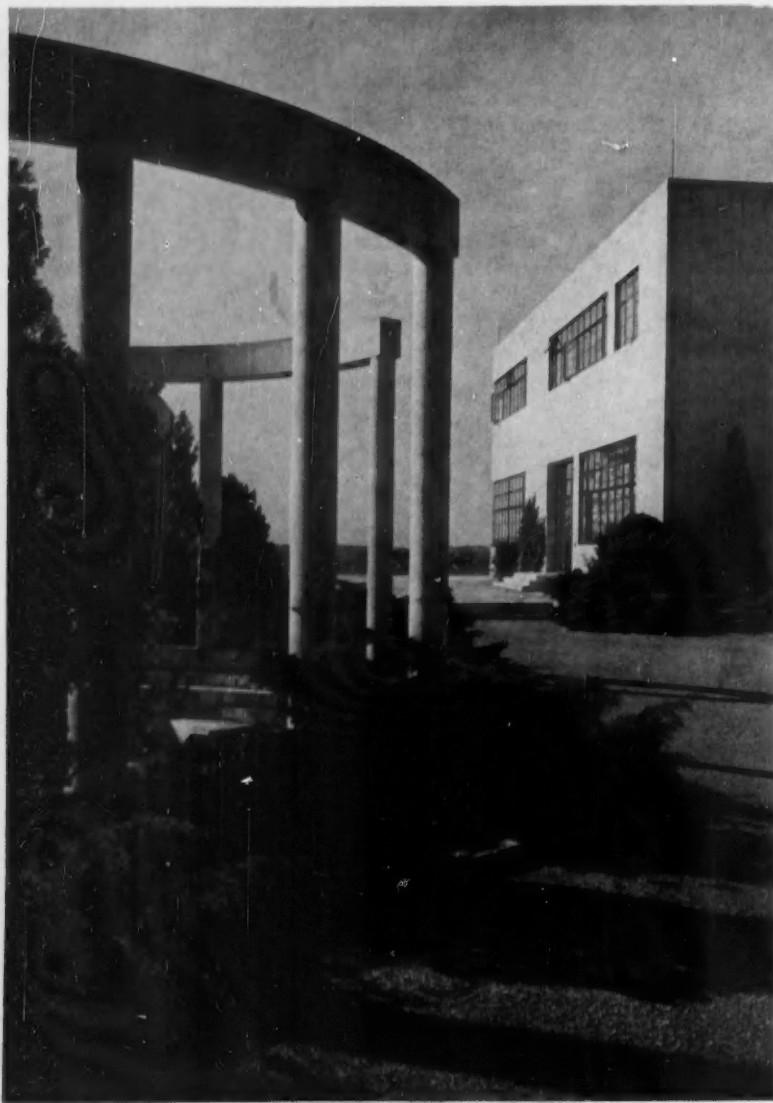
country. It is *Pinus patula*, the hanging silvery grey needles of which are as sensitive to the lightest breeze as the leaves of an aspen. I shall always remember it as I once saw it in a Cornish garden, shimmering in the shafts of sunlight which broke through the branches of neighbouring trees. But if *Pinus patula* is a dream of the impossible as far as most of us are concerned, *P. Ayacahuite* is far more accessible, thriving well even in such cold gardens as Wisley. Oddly enough both trees come from Mexico, but I suppose one is far too ready to think of Mexico as a country with one climate, whereas in fact it has many. Moreover, according to W. J. Bean, *Pinus Ayacahuite* is widely distributed throughout Mexico and there are local forms differing considerably in hardiness.

Both *P. patula* and *P. Ayacahuite* have needles so slender that they tumble over instead of being held stiffly as in most pines. This is also true in some degree of the Himalayan *P. excelsa* which is not, however, such a decorative tree, but there is a fine and very hardy and vigorous hybrid between *P. excelsa* and *P. Ayacahuite* which is almost as beautiful as the latter and yet seems to be scarcely known at all. This is *P. Holforiana*, raised by Sir George Holford at Westonbirt. There are, of course, fine specimens of it in that famous arboretum.

I highly recommend *Cupressus arizonica* as perhaps the best of all the hardy cypresses for general planting. Of course, if one is fortunate enough to live in a climate where frost is practically unknown, *C. cashmeriana* must take precedence, for not only is it the loveliest of cypresses, but it also has a very good claim to being considered the most beautiful of all trees. High praise needs some support and so I refer the doubter to the best specimen of *C. cashmeriana* I know: the superb tree that crowns Isola Madre in Lake Maggiore and has aroused the wondering admiration of all tree lovers who have been fortunate enough to see it. Unfortunately it is so placed as to be almost impossible to photograph, so I can provide no picture to substantiate my claim.

But *Cupressus cashmeriana* is tender and in most British gardens would either be killed outright or be so damaged as to become a mere bedraggled caricature of its real self. *Cupressus arizonica*, by contrast, is bone hardy and anyone can enjoy it. The habit of the best forms is narrowly erect and the leaves are a very attractive greyish-green. In its juvenile state it might well be mistaken for a glaucous form of *C. macrocarpa*, but it has none of the vices of that once over-rated tree and I can recommend it without hesitation.

Blue-green or grey-green foliage can easily be overdone, and I think that for this reason a little too much prominence has been given to the blue spruces, excellent though they are in moderation. The same is true of the blue cedars, which in recent years seem to have been planted almost to the exclusion of the green-leaved forms. I would, however, like to see more gardeners planting the deodar, *Cedrus Deodara*, which I regard as the most graceful cedar. In contrast to *Abies Breweriana*, the weeping



AT CHARTERS, NEAR ASCOT, THE SPREADING GROWTH OF *JUNIPERUS SABINA TAMARISCIFOLIA* HAS BEEN USED AS A DELIBERATE CONTRAST TO THE UPRIGHT AND RATHER SEVERE LINES OF THE HOUSE



ONE OF THE LOVELIEST OF THE PINES: *PINUS AYACAHUISTE*, WHICH HAS VERY SLENDER, GREYISH GREEN NEEDLES. (Right) *ABIES BREWERIANA* IN AN IDEAL SETTING AMONG TREES THAT IN NO WAY DETRACT FROM ITS DRAMATIC APPEARANCE

habit of the deodar is more marked when it is young than as it ages, but perhaps weeping is the wrong word to describe a habit which really consists in no more than arching over the ends of its slender branches.

The multitudinous cypresses which we used to know as forms of *Cupressus Lawsoniana*, and which we have now been commanded by botanists to refer to as *Chamaecyparis Lawsoniana*, have no doubt suffered in the eyes of ordinary gardeners because of their popularity with the keepers of cemeteries. Yet there is really nothing funereal about the best forms of this very robust and utilitarian tree, and there is certainly no comparison between a "Lawson" that has been allowed to grow unhampered and one that has been cut about to make it conform to some formal requirement. It is for that reason I have included a picture of a golden form of *C. Lawsoniana* in Captain Neil McEacharn's famous garden at Pallanza, Italy. Here is a tree, certainly no more than twenty years old, which is already fully mature and playing its full part in the garden scene it was planted to enhance. Moreover, its comparative isolation serves to illustrate the point I have already made about all trees of very striking character. One copper beech can be beautiful; twenty would almost certainly be a bore. The same is true of the weeping willow, a tree often overplanted with decreasing effect, and this is equally so with many of the finest conifers.

One of the most popular forms of *C. Lawsoniana* is the narrowly erect bright green *erecta viridis*. This suffers from the one drawback that its outer branches are rather liable to be broken off by snow. There is a very similar form, known as Jackman's variety, in which these side branches are shorter and consequently less liable to such damage. In other respects it is

equally satisfactory, and I regard it as a useful addition to columnar trees.

Bi-generic hybrids are usually of more interest to the scientist than to the gardener. I do not think that this is going to be the case with an attractive and apparently exceedingly robust

hybrid between *Cupressus macrocarpa* and *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis* known as *Cupressocyparis Leylandii*. In appearance this suggests a rather graceful form of *C. Lawsoniana*, but one of its merits is that, unlike most conifers, it roots very readily from cuttings. A handful of

shoots which were given to me about a year ago all rooted without difficulty and are already growing into sturdy little plants. This quality will, of course, appeal to the mass producers of hedge plants rather than to the seeker after choice specimens, but from what I have seen of it I believe that *C. Leylandii* will be welcome to both, for it will, I fancy, stand clipping well and yet make a shapely and elegant tree when left to its own devices.

The spreading, almost horizontal, variety of *Juniperus Sabina* known as *tamariscifolia*, is often recommended as a rock garden shrub. For this purpose it seems to me to be totally unsuited unless, indeed, the rock garden is to be one of those odd structures that are all rock and no alpine plants. For *J. Sabina tamariscifolia* is no respecter of neighbours. Its branches spread in all directions, brooking no competition and sweeping over everything of a less vigorous nature. Nevertheless, in the right place as an isolated plant on a bank, or to contrast with some conspicuously erect object, it is superb and quite as dominating in its very different way as any of the columnar or weeping conifers. I understand that, when Charters was built at Ascot in the 1930s, great use was made of this juniper in the surrounding planting for the express purpose of contrasting the horizontal lines of the plant with the perpendicular lines of this rather severely modern building. And that, perhaps, is as good a way as any of emphasising the architectural quality which most conifers can bring to the garden when used individually rather than in the mass.



STRAIGHT SPIRE OF *PICEA OMORIKA*, A CONIFER OF SUCH STRIKING APPEARANCE THAT IT ALWAYS TENDS TO DOMINATE THE SCENE

COLLARING THE HORSE

Written and Illustrated by
JOHN L. JONES

IN 1939 there were probably well over a million draught horses employed on British farms and large numbers in every British city. London alone had twenty thousand. Today the draught horse has virtually disappeared from the towns and it is doubtful if a tenth of the pre-war number remains on the farms.

This eclipse has had deep repercussions on the crafts which formerly catered for the equipment of draught horses. Many of them have been able to adapt their skill to the new times: the saddler supplements his trade from riding schools and hunts by a score of sidelines from dogs' leads to travelling bags; the wheelwright has turned his skill to wagons and trailers of heavier tare for the tractor drawbar; the smith attends to the maintenance needs of mechanised farming.

Not so the collar-maker. His craft and calling have almost been wiped out. It is doubtful whether any collar-makers working to-day are under the age of seventy, and it is certain that there are no recruits to the trade. Collar-making is, of course, a distinct trade, and it is as hard as it is skilled. Its materials are the best hide, heavy cloth for lining, strong seaming twine, rawhide thong and the best-quality combed rye straw, preferred for its length, straightness and lack of brittleness. From these materials must be fashioned an instrument as strong and hard as a gambrel of ash, which must be capable of taking the pull of a ton load and must ensure perfect comfort and ease to the neck and shoulders of the horse. It must stand the daily wear and tear of sweat and weather alike and last for years.

One of the last remaining practitioners of the craft in the West Country is Mr. Tom Mellet, who makes collars at Wrington, in Somerset. Of the half century he has spent at the trade he has passed thirty-five years in the corner where he works to-day. His collar-maker's block, sunk in the floor at his feet, and the handles of his mallets are worn as smooth as glass by the toil of years. Despite his eighty years, his stint is still a collar a day.

Perhaps the principal impression one

brings away from a day of watching him at work is one of the immense amount of physical effort which flows into the strength and beauty of a finished collar. He makes his collars in two principal parts, the forewale or ring, and the body. The forewale is the first to be fashioned and the materials used are a strip of leather seven inches wide and of a length eight inches longer than double the length of the collar when finished and rye straw.

He begins by thoroughly damping the leather strip, which is then stretched along the bench, folded over and tacked, leaving on one side a "barge" of a quarter of an inch of leather to which to stitch the lining. On the opposite side there is about two inches to draw in the body and eventually stitch the sidepieces. The leather is then stitched to the lining, by the use of the best rawhide thong and diamond spotting awl. The forewale is now an empty tube ready for the arduous labour of stuffing.

To start the forewale stuffing, the maker puts the empty tube on the



THE TOOLS OF THE COLLAR-MAKER'S CRAFT. Note the block sunk in the floor with the mallets on it, the nicked collar rods and clamp leaning against the seat



THE BEGINNING OF THE JOB. The damped leather strip for the forewale is folded over and tacked into position for the stitching. (Right) STUFFING THE FOREWALE WITH STRAW. It is held half-way along its length with the foot; the straw is rammed in with the collar rod, and the process is repeated for the other half of the forewale



block and places his foot on it at a point two and a half inches from the middle. Then he takes the first wisp of rye straw, places it in the end nick of the long steel collar rod and pushes it into the forewale. The first three wisps are not rammed home too hard, in order to allow freedom for the straw to splice with the wisps rammed home from the other side. This done, the subsequent straw wisps are rammed home hard and true, and each is well malleted on the block to ensure perfect evenness and distribution of the straw. This is very heavy work, done with astonishing vigour and effortlessness by the collar-maker's wrists and arms. When the straw is firm enough, the remaining wisps are rammed in by inverting the forewale and beating the ramrod on the block. The process is repeated alternately each side until the stuffed forewale is as hard and even as planed wood.

During the whole of this time the collar-maker is continuously turning, straining and shaping the ring on his leather padded knee, giving it the right curve and swell, beating, ramming and malleting with strength and skill. As the top of the ring is approached, he shapes it inward. Then, the filling and malleting finished, the leather top is



THE SECOND STAGE. Using the 7-lb. mallet on the body of the collar, to ensure evenness in the straw. (*Right*) SHAPING THE SECOND SIDE OF THE BODY AT THE NOSE OF THE COLLAR

damped and turned backwards a little on both sides, both points of the forewale are stitched together with seaming twine and the straw is trimmed off to bring it to the right length. The forewale is finished.

The fashioning of the forewale is perhaps the hardest part of the job and Tom will pause here to light up and maybe do a little reminiscing. But not for long, and he is soon busy with the next part, which is the making and shaping of the collar body. This is the principal skill of the collar-maker's craft. It is not just a question of forming by eye and hand a symmetrical oval figure. He must have in mind all the time the contours of the horse's neck and shoulders when pulling a load, giving the right swell to the draught at the base and easing the neck with extra flock and fullness on top for comfort.

The collar-maker begins the second part of his task by stitching the leather throat piece—a four-sided piece of leather two inches at the base, widening to three and a half inches at the top—to the lining and to the middle of the collar. The body is now ready for stuffing and shaping.

The first handful of straw placed exactly in the middle of the throat piece is stitched there to keep it in position. He now takes the master bundle of rye straw long enough to fill the whole body of the collar and splices it into the straw at the throat, turning it across his wrist to increase the swell at the base for the draught. Then, with one leg through the collar and one knee steadyng it, he begins the all-important job of lacing the body from leather to lining and lining to leather across the straw, drawing the stitches together as tightly as possible. The straw is continuously pushed towards the throat between the stitches and progressively hardened by driving in straw as required from the top end. During the whole process the straw and leather are malleted hard to ensure evenness and perfect distribution. The straw is also beaten hard between the lacings with the mallet handle. The stitching, drawn tight or loosened according to need, now becomes the principal factor in moulding the shape of the body. Then with both sides filled and with the swell of the draught just right, the two sides are stitched together at the top and the tops of the forewale are trimmed and cut

into a neat point. The collar is finished, apart from adding the nosecap and sidepieces which protect it from the wet. It has been a hard day's work.

The collar-maker offers several rough-and-ready rules for testing the fit of a collar. It must go on without any effort and lie evenly on the horse's shoulders without see-sawing. In front of the horse's withers, it should just be possible to insert the flat of one's hand between collar and neck. If the collar is too loose, it will chafe up and down and in one day can form a sore which will leave a permanent blemish.

A collar that is too tight, particularly at the base, can turn the best horse into a jibber and rearer. The cause may not be readily apparent. Some years ago I bought a Percheron mare of exceptional neck and shoulder development and warranted a fine worker in all harness. Put to her first job of hauling kale from a muddy field, she ran back in the shafts, upset the load and nearly wrecked the wagon. That might have been due to nerves at the sight of new faces and the sound of a new voice, for the mare was obviously highly strung. So we tried to settle her down in a number of jobs over the next few

days, but without success. The man we bought her from came over and diagnosed the trouble as soon as he saw her in harness. The mare was fast in getaway and at the first big pull the collar, which was too narrow at the base, was actually closing her windpipe and choking her. With a collar made specially to her size—at twenty-seven inches this was the biggest the collar-maker had ever made—she worked her heart out, with never another refusal.

To-day at Wrington, apart from the trickle of orders from the farms—on the Somerset clay particularly the horse is still used for stop-and-start winter jobs of light hauling—a large proportion of the orders come from the mines, where the pit ponies are worked in collars with special leather caps to protect them from the low roofs.

But it becomes increasingly difficult to get collars made. As individual makers give up, usually through age, there is seldom anyone to replace them, and the tendency is therefore for each surviving craftsman to serve an ever-expanding territory. When Tom Mellet gives up at Wrington there will probably be no one to succeed him.



STITCHING ON THE SIDEPIECES. These protect the straw from the weather and make the body waterproof. (*Right*) THE FINISHED PRODUCT. A pit pony's collar, with cap for protecting the withers. The forewale, body and woolly lining can be clearly seen

OLD TOWNS RE-VISITED—XXXIV

RYE, SUSSEX—III: PROSPERITY AND DECAY

By ARTHUR OSWALD

Mermaid-street, sometimes claimed to be the most picturesque street in England, drops down the steep western slopes of the town to the site of the vanished Strand Gate and the old harbour. The decay of Rye as a port set in during the later years of the 16th century.

RYE in Tudor times enjoyed a tide of prosperity which was not to occur again. The town seems to have been near the zenith of its glory in 1573, when it was honoured by a visit from Queen Elizabeth, who was pleased to call it "Rye Royal." But already there was difficulty in keeping the harbour clear as a result of continual "inning" of the marsh. The channel of the Rother silted up, and, although remedies were considered, nothing effective was done, so that by 1618 the mayor and jurats were complaining that their harbour was so decayed "that all Trade has forsaken us." Their plight was so bad that, ten years later, Charles I authorised a Sunday collection on behalf of the distressed town in all the churches of England.

In Mermaid-street (Fig. 3), so quiet to-day, except when it is alive with tourists delighted by its quaintness, Elizabethan Rye is still easily visualised. Imagination may be



1.—IN THE CHURCHYARD. HEADSTONES AND A TABLE TOMB UNDER THE CANOPY OF A FINE CEDAR



2.—MERMAID-STREET. THE LOWER END, LOOKING DOWN TO THE STRAND

assisted by cross-association with the Mermaid Tavern in London, but whereas that resort of Elizabethan poets is only a ghost of the past, the Mermaid at Rye remains substantially unaltered, and it is likely to have been known to at least one of Shakespeare's contemporaries, the dramatist, John Fletcher, if he re-visited his native town in later life. A little farther down the street stands the finest Elizabethan house in Rye (Fig. 2), and there are several others that go back to the 16th century even if they have been disguised by tile-hanging, weatherboarding or plaster. Many of the wealthier townsmen—merchants, ship-owners and shipwrights—doubtless lived in Mermaid-street.

The Mermaid itself must have been familiar to thousands of Elizabethan travellers. Rye was one of the principal cross-Channel ports, and Mermaid-street, descending the western slope of the town, led directly to the quay and the harbour. The warehouses at the foot of the hill (Figs. 10 and 11) stand on land once covered by water, which came close up to the wall on either side of the Strand Gate. This occupied a position at the bottom of Mermaid-street, close to the white weather-boarded house seen in Fig. 12. Travellers disembarking would pass through it and make their way to the Mermaid or one of the other inns of the town. About the time of Queen Elizabeth's visit hundreds of French Protestant refugees were pouring into Rye after the massacre of St. Bartholomew's Day (August 24, 1572). A return made on November 4 showed that 641 had arrived since August 27, and, although the majority passed on, numbers remained in the town, indeed so many that a few months later the mayor and jurats made an order forbidding any more French or Flemish immigrants to settle in Rye unless they were "merchants, gents, poste messengers or the leike." None the less, by 1582 there are said to have been over 1,500 French refugees in the town, and Rye for long had a large Huguenot community, who used the old church of the Austin Friars for their place of worship. Samuel Jeake, the Rye antiquary and town clerk during the Commonwealth, whose son lived in Mermaid-street, seems to have belonged to a French Protestant family.

For a town of seafarers and merchants the gradual decay of the old harbour, which had been capable of accommodating 200 ships, was a disaster. Rye had first risen to importance as a fishing community. For centuries fishing was the principal source of livelihood for the inhabitants, and as early as the 13th century

Rye was supplying fish for the royal household. In 1440 it was said of the people of Rye, Winchelsea and Hastings that they "care nothing for agriculture but employ themselves solely in fishing and seafarers." After Rye had become one of the Cinque Ports and had its quota of ships to fit out and man for the fleet, it was natural that it should turn to building its own galleys. In 1545 the King's ship *Maistres* was built at Rye. There was a revival of the shipbuilding industry in the 19th century, when sturdy fishing smacks were turned out in the yards, the last of which closed down in 1926. In the Middle Ages there was an important trade in wine, while the principal exports were wool, salt from the salt-pans on the neighbouring marshes and fuel from the woods among the hills inland. Privateering and smuggling, often on a grand scale, supplemented the legitimate forms of trade. The cliffs on the east side of the town and the many ancient cellars under the houses were found useful by the gentlemen of "the Free Trade," with whom the inn-keepers were often in league, and there are traditions of smuggling at the old Flushing Inn, the Mermaid and several houses in the town.

To-day a waste expanse, largely populated by lorries, takes the place of the old harbour, now reduced to a narrow dock into which the sluggish River Tillingham discharges. Beyond the bridge, which long ago supplanted the old ferry that provided communication with Winchelsea and Hastings, and on the far side of the railway line, there is a reminder of former days in the fine windmill that stands by the winding stream, complete with its sails and fan-tail (Fig. 13). It was burnt down but has been rebuilt as it was before the fire and is now the property of the Town Council. Old views show that there used to be three other windmills, which stood on Rye Hill, north of the town.

It is time to stroll up from the Strand



3.—LOOKING WEST DOWN MERMAID-STREET WITH THE MERMAID INN ON THE RIGHT

past the warehouses and look at Mermaid-street more closely. One may wonder why a street with such a steep descent, as steep almost as that of Clovelly, should have been so important, when there was the High-street with its much easier gradient going up from the Mint; but the cobbles should tell us that when travellers were mounted and goods were carried on pack-horses the narrowness and steepness of the hill presented no great difficulty. Like Watchbell-street, which was illustrated last week, Mermaid-street gains much of its charm from the variety of materials in the houses, but to add to that there is the variety in levels of the roofs, windows and doorways. Several of the doorways are approached by little flights of steps, some set at right angles to the houses, others

dropping straight down into the cobbled street.

The Mermaid, with its long half-timbered front (Fig. 3) and courtyard behind, is the largest building in the street and perhaps the oldest. It is known to have been an inn in 1636 and probably had been long before, but towards the end of the 18th century it was given up, and it was in private occupation until about sixty years ago, when it was reopened as an hotel under its old name. The cult of the "old worlde" hostelry ensured for the revived Mermaid a successful new lease of life, and indeed there are few inns in the country which can rival it in wealth of old oak, both external and in the low ceilings of its rooms, several of which preserve their old open fireplaces. The Oak House, near the bottom of the street, at the corner of Trader's



4.—THE STEEP ASCENT UP THE COBBLED STREET FROM THE STRAND. (Right) 5.—THE OLD HOSPITAL IN MERMAID-STREET





6.—AT THE CORNER OF MERMAID-STREET AND WEST-STREET



7.—THE COBBLED LANE FROM LAMB HOUSE LOOKING EAST TO THE CHURCH

Passage (right of Fig. 4), is another building in which there is a room with wide fireplace and chimney beam and other features of late-15th-century date.

A few yards below the Mermaid and also on the north side of the street, a three-storey timber-framed house with overhanging gables dominates the lower stretch of the hill (Figs. 2 and 5). It is known as the Old Hospital, having been used as one during the Napoleonic wars. The house is of 15th-century origin but was reconstructed in the second half of the following century, when the three gables, carried out on deep coves and carved brackets, were added. According to the *Victoria County History* one of the brackets bears the date 1576, but I failed to find it. At the end of the 17th century this house was the home of the younger Samuel Jeake. In 1681 he married Elizabeth Hartshorne, to whose mother it belonged, and in 1689 he built as a storehouse the stone building with a gable opposite (left of Fig. 2). The elder Jeake, a Non-conformist of uncompromising views, lost the office of town clerk at the Restoration and came into collision with the authorities as a sectarian preacher. His literary monument is *The Charters of the Cinque Ports*, which was published after his death. As town clerk he had purchased the whole collection from the Corporation for a guinea. Jeake dabbled in alchemy and had a passion for astrology, which he transmitted to his son. The latter, when he built his storehouse in Mermaid-street, cast the horoscope of the building at the hour the foundation stone was laid (noon, June 13, 1689), and he had this incised diagrammatically on a stone on the front. In the original gable he set carvings of three serpents with their tails in their mouths; but these emblems of eternity failed to secure their own perpetuity: they disappeared over a century ago. Samuel Jeake the third, who succeeded his father at the Old Hospital, added aeronautics to the family curriculum, and constructed a flying machine which did not rise from the ground.

At the top of Mermaid-street there is West-street coming up at right angles from the High-street (Fig. 6). This is a Georgian corner of contrasting house-fronts. Tower House (on the left) is so called from a high brick tower which stands in its garden behind; the next house has a distinguished doorway set in a bold arched recess; the house on the corner (right) was built by Thomas Lamb in 1789. West-street goes on a few yards and then turns abruptly left-handed, and at the corner on the right, facing east, Lamb House, the former home of Henry James, looks up the remaining length of street to the church (Fig. 7). Lamb House will be the subject of a separate article, and in turning our back on it now we may note the tidy stock brick fronts and fanlighted doorways of the houses on the left, which, however, conceal a much earlier structure behind. The whole lane is an enchanting piece of Rye whether you look down to Lamb House or up to the church.



8.—HOUSES AT THE NORTH-WEST CORNER OF CHURCH-SQUARE. (Right) 9.—Nos. 54-60, CHURCH-SQUARE. THE GEORGIAN FACING WITH "MATHEMATICAL TILES" CONCEALS A MUCH OLDER BUILDING



9.—Nos. 54-60, CHURCH-SQUARE. THE GEORGIAN FACING WITH "MATHEMATICAL TILES" CONCEALS A MUCH OLDER BUILDING



10.—OLD WAREHOUSES ON THE STRAND AT THE BOTTOM OF MERMAID-STREET



11.—WAREHOUSES BUILT ON LAND RECLAIMED FROM THE OLD HARBOUR. (Right) 12.—WEATHERBOARDED HOUSE AT THE BOTTOM OF MERMAID-STREET. THE STRAND GATE STOOD CLOSE TO THIS POINT

On emerging at the north-west corner of Church-square we pass the end of a house with a wide brick chimney-breast which has had a doorway pierced in it (Fig. 8). The front of the house, facing the churchyard, presents a neat Georgian appearance (Fig. 9), but the chimney-breast shows it to be much older. Probably of early-16th-century date, it has three pairs of gabled set-offs where it diminishes in width and is surmounted by twin hexagonal stacks. The neat front is in fact only a facing and the seeming brickwork a skin of "mathematical tiles," behind which there is the timber structure of a 15th-century house, which preserves the king-post of its hall roof, an early Tudor stone fireplace and some linengold panelling. Formerly known as Greene Hall, this house was in the 16th century the home of the Wymond and Gaymer families and later became the Custom House. Queen Elizabeth is believed to have been entertained in the house by Henry Gaymer, who was mayor at the time of her visit. The site of the old vicarage in which the dramatist, John Fletcher, was born, is on the north side of the churchyard. His father, Richard Fletcher, later bishop successively of Bristol, Worcester and London, was not vicar of Rye, as has been supposed, but held a preacher-ship in the church from 1574 to 1581. His son, John, was born and baptised at Rye in 1579.

In Rye, as we have seen, almost all the streets and lanes lead up to the church. In concluding these articles a brief allusion must be made to the churchyard, about which there was correspondence in these pages eighteen months ago. Apart from the clearing of some trees and shrubs which was then criticised nothing further has been done, and I understand that the original scheme by which it was proposed to remove many of the headstones and use them as paving is being modified and less drastic measures are being considered. Fig. 1 shows one of the most attractive parts of the churchyard near the south transept where a fine cedar makes a canopy to the headstones and table tombs. But the west end of the churchyard presents a very different picture, and here some judicious clearing of overgrown shrubs and levelling to make mowing possible would be all to the good. At present the nave of the church can hardly be seen from Church-square, and all the foreground is an overgrown jungle. Much of the churchyard is far from beautiful in its present state, and a revised scheme which would permit turfing and not entail the removal of old headstones would effect a real improvement.



13.—THE WINDMILL BESIDE THE RIVER TILLINGHAM

OLD ENGLISH CRUETS

By G. BERNARD HUGHES

SILVER cruets were wrought by the goldsmiths of London more than five centuries ago for the treasure chests of princes, prelates, nobles and rich gentry. These were matching pairs of flasks for serving the oil and vinegar then essential for giving piquancy to the tasteless preserved foods of the period. Dame Agnes Hungerford's inventory of 1521 included a set of "vj cruettes of sylver, parcel gilt," and that of Sir Thomas Ramsey, Lord Mayor of London in 1577, "2 gilt crewettes with covers weighing 27 oz. a poiz." These domestic cruets should not be confused with the flagon-like containers of holy water used by the clergy, and known also as cruets.

More costly were cruets carved from solid crystal through which their contents were visible. Most of these were severely plain or lightly carved; others were lavishly set with jewels such as the pair recorded in the inventory of the Upper Jewel House of the Tower in 1649: "two cristal crewits garnished with gold, set with rubies and turquoyses, p'oz 4 lb 1 oz. valued at £3 per oz: £174 0 0."

The majority of cruets, however, were of glass, such as were noted in the *Paston Letters*, in 1459, and are used to this day. Cotgrave in 1611 defined the domestic cruet as "a Violl wherein Oyle or Vinegar is served to the Table." Until the Restoration in 1660 these were blown from a green-tinted bottle glass, but cruets in clear Venetian glass had for long been imported. According to Worlidge, writing in 1675, cruets in French or Dutch glass were more transparent than the English. In that year, however, George Ravenscroft introduced glass-of-lead under the name of "improved flint glass." A few months later this was described by Dr. Plot as harder, more durable, and whiter than any from Venice.

Ravenscroft made flint-glass cruets in three



I.—AN EARLY CRUET FRAME WITH LATERAL RING HANDLE, OCTAGONAL BALUSTER CASTERS AND A PAIR OF CUT-GLASS BOTTLES. By Edmund Pearce, London, 1709

sizes, and an old deed in the possession of the Vintners' Company lists weights and prices: "Diamond Crewitts of a pint ribbed and plain s d with stoppers in them. 9 oz. for 2-0 a piece"; "½ pint crewitts of same sort with stoppers in s d them. 7 oz. for 1-6 apiece"; "½ pint crewitts of the same sort with stoppers in them. 5 oz for s d 1-0 apiece"; "purled crewitts to be at the same rates as if they were diamond. And that a Raven's head shall be made or set in all glasses

to distinguish the same from all others that shall be made in resemblance of the said glasses."

The addition of elaborate trailing and other ornament increased the price to five shillings a pound. These cruets had long necks, mallet-shaped bodies with rounded base edges and loosely fitting hollow-blown stoppers. The glass-seller also offered them with movable silver caps supporting moulded finials by which they could be lifted. These caps might be engraved with the owner's crest or monogram. Silver-mounted glass cruets were advertised by glass-sellers throughout the 18th century.

Silver frames to carry pairs of cruets, thus simplifying passing at table, appear to date no earlier than about 1690. Such a frame comprised a flat footless platform cut from the solid plate, bordered with wide moulding and supporting a pair of openwork guard rings of thick moulded wire. From the centre of the base extended a pear-shaped lateral handle. Two small rings projecting horizontally from the guard rings received the silver cruet caps when the bottles were in use. From about 1710 the frame was raised on four short moulded scroll feet and the pear-shaped handle began to be superseded by a moulded vertical ring at the back of the frame.

During George I's reign two-bottle cruet frames were elaborated. The platform was separated into two circular or hexagonal plates joined side by side. Guard rails were superseded on fashionable pieces by deep galleries composed of panels containing moulded and chased openwork motifs or saw-cut piercing. These extended from the platform edge to just short of the bottle shoulder and were encircled top and bottom with wide step moulding. The base of each section might be pierced in a pattern matching that of the galleries. The



2.—FRAME SHOWING THE EARLY COMBINATION OF BOTTLES AND CASTERS ON A SINGLE STAND, WITH VERTICAL COLUMN HANDLE. By Francis Garthorne, London, 1717. (Right) 3.—WARWICK CRUET WITH VASE-SHAPED CASTERS AND GLASS BOTTLES WITH SLIP-ON COVERS. By Samuel Wood, London, 1735



moulded feet were in scrolled, shell or bun designs. A strong vertical loop handle projected laterally and, in George II examples, a cartouche or shell engraved with the owner's coat-of-arms might link the galleries. Some floridly designed, excellently chased rococo work is found in cruet frames and mounts made by master-silversmiths of the 1740s and 1750s.

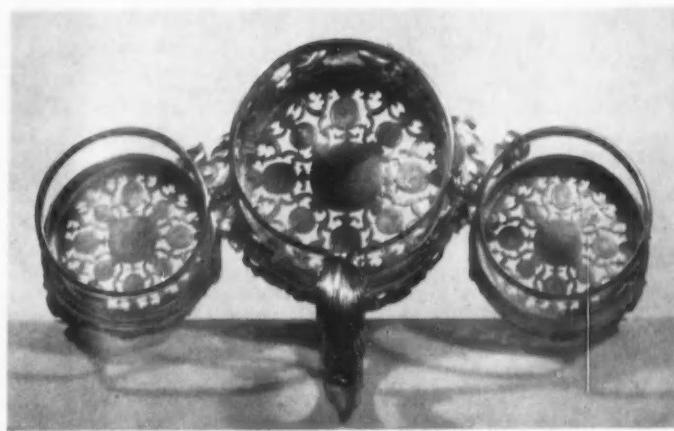
The cruets themselves were of flint-glass, usually covered with loose-fitting silver caps. From the mid-1720s handsome cruet mountings might be cemented permanently to the cruet mouths in association with elaborate frames. The cap, somewhat resembling a miniature hexagonal caster, was fitted with a hinged dome cover and a spout lip. From a solid lug attached to the cap diametrically opposite to the spout a moulded handle curved expansively outward and downward to within $\frac{1}{2}$ in. of the cruet shoulder. From about 1780 the spout might be enlarged and covered by a lid opened by means of a vertical thumb-piece. Some lids were self-opening.

Oil and vinegar cruets fitting into ornamental dishes that were raised from the plate and equipped with a pair of widely spaced guard rings, pierced or of wire, date from about 1750. One fashionable type resembled an escallop shell. Canoe-shaped dishes with pointed ends curled into scrolls date from the 1760s; scroll or ball feet raised the dish above the table-top. It was customary from the 1760s for the frame to be lifted by means of a central vertical column terminating immediately above the bottle stoppers in an oval loop large enough to grasp. At first loops were plain, but later they were moulded and chased. The trade-card of Thomas Heming, goldsmith to the king, "at the King's Arms in Bond Street, facing Clifford Street," illustrates an example with three glass cruets, their necks and bodies cut with shallow diamonds. The third bottle was for soy. This card, issued between 1765 and 1773, is in the collection of Sir Ambrose Heal.

An oil and vinegar cruet frame was often accompanied by a matching stand containing three silver casters—a large one for sugar and two smaller ones for sprinkling Jamaica and



4 and 5.—SET OF VASE-SHAPED CASTERS DECORATED WITH STRAPWORK. By Paul de Lamerie, London, 1735. (Below) THE PIERCED STAND FOR THE CASTERS SEEN IN THE PHOTOGRAPH ABOVE



Cayenne pepper. The seemingly large size of the ornamental piercings on silver pepper caster covers has led to the assumption that pepper was coarsely ground. Hand-operated pepper mills of the period still in existence, however, have been found to grind peppercorns to flour fineness. To preserve harmony of design in the fret-cutting of the caster covers the makers

had to control the flow of pepper by fitting silver linings inside the ornamental covers. These were drilled with tiny circular holes, but even such perforations were restricted to the upper third of the pierced cover. The lining of a caster intended for pungent Cayenne was more sparsely pierced than those intended for Jamaican pepper.

A silver cruet frame and a cruet stand, from the opening of the 18th century, might be combined into a single graceful frame housing five containers. An advertisement in the *London Gazette*, 1705, refers to "a sett of silver Casters with 2 Vinegar Cruets in a Frame," and Cripps records a similar cruet frame struck with the London hall-mark of 1706. Such an enlarged frame consisted basically of two bottle cruet frames with three small circular platforms at the front, making a five-lobed entity. The guard rings were attached to the platform by four cast scroll brackets which extended downward as short legs terminating as spreading feet to give stability. A vertical ring handle extended laterally from between the oil and vinegar cruets at the back. After the accession of George I such a cruet frame was more conveniently lifted by a moulded loop handle hard soldered to, or cast in a piece with, a vertical column rising from the middle of the platform. Cruet frames of this design are known to collectors as Warwick frames.

From about 1735 an oval or shield-shaped plate engraved with the owner's coat-of-arms was soldered directly in front of the sugar caster, extending from the guard ring to the platform. Crests were engraved on casters and bottle mounts. Silversmiths quickly elaborated Warwick cruet frames by gadrooning the guard rings and designing the loop handles to harmonize with rococo casters. The coat-of-arms might be deeply embossed in an expansive cartouche. The frame platform might be pierced and engraved.

A cruet frame less costly in design than the Warwick, smaller and less flamboyant, dates from the 1730s. This was composed of a plain flat circular plate with four short scroll legs. The plate supported five guard rings of thick moulded wire fitted with three silver casters, a



6.—WARWICK CRUET MADE FOR THE GOLDSMITHS' COMPANY. By Richard Bailey, 1740. The stand and casters are engraved with the Company's arms. (Middle) 7.—WARWICK CRUET WITH THREE CASTERS AND A PAIR OF FLINT-Glass BOTTLES WITH SILVER MOUNTINGS. By Samuel Wood, London, 1750. (Right) 8.—LARGE WARWICK CRUET WITH THREE CASTERS, THREE SILVER-MOUNTED GLASS BOTTLES AND EIGHT MUSTARD-POTS. By George Methuen, London, 1752



9.—WARWICK CRUET WITH CASTERS ENRICHED WITH EMBOSSED ROCOCO ORNAMENTS. By John Delmester, London, 1790.
 (Right) 10.—GALLERIED CRUET FRAME WITH SEVEN SILVER-MOUNTED CUT-GLASS CONTAINERS, INCLUDING A MUSTARD-POT. Maker's mark C C, London, 1810

pair of shallow-cut glass cruets, and a column handle. Cruet frames of this type are illustrated on silversmiths' trade-cards in Sir Ambrose Heal's collection, such as those issued by Richard Boulton, who traded from 1744 to 1753 at the Blue Anchor and Star, in Cheapside, London, and John Fossey, whose workshops in 1748 were at the "Blackmoor's Head and Sun at the corner of Ball Alley, Lombard Street, London."

By about 1760 the platform was encircled with a deep gallery or bar which might be plain, pierced or embossed and chased. This was supported on four spreading scallop-shell or ball-and-claw feet. Such a cruet frame rather resembles a giant decanter coaster with a tall standing handle rising from the middle.

The factory silversmiths of Birmingham, Sheffield and London copied these, making smaller versions from machine-shaped parts and replacing all-silver casters with silver-mounted glass containers.

At about this time began the half-century vogue for soy as a relish with food. Soy was described in 1776 as "a sauce as thick as treacle, and of a clear black colour." It was prepared from the beans of the *soja hispida* and salt mixed with ground barley or wheat. This created a demand for special soy frames complete with silver-mounted cut-glass bottles hung by silver bottle tickets on chains. Such a cruet frame might contain six to ten sauce bottles and a pair of pepper casters. The bottle tickets might number many more than the bottles, each being named differently, such as soy, catsup, anchovy, lemon, tarragon, kyan, chili vin and so on.

Cruet frames and their silver mountings from 1790 to the 1820s might be either lavishly decorative or severely simple. Frederick Bradbury has recorded that the catalogues of one Sheffield firm of manufacturing silversmiths illustrate more than 500 cruet frame patterns, issued in both silver and

Sheffield plate. The silver plate was thinly rolled and the main processes carried out mechanically. The galleried platform might be oval, circular, square or rectangular, with four feet, and a handle at each end or a central column for lifting.

The master silversmiths, however, produced costly conceptions of the cruet frame, ornately enriched with decorative motifs, cast and chased, and fitted with superbly cut bottles of flint-glass. The late Georgian fashion called for a cruet frame on a rimless oval platform bordered with down-curving gadrooning, a D-handle at each end, and four gadrooned feet. This formed a platform for guard rings supported on four moulded pillars, leaving the bottles fully exposed. Another type issued in large numbers by the master silversmiths at this time was the box cruet frame. This had an oval frame rising at each end, with an engraved

solid gallery and four scroll feet. This was covered with a recessed plate into which fitted five cruets, two casters and a mustard-pot. The plate was secured by the central looped column which passed through to the base, where it was fastened by a screw-nut.

These patterns had been adopted by the manufacturing silversmiths by 1820, the box type continuing from about 1830 in circular form with high, elaborately pierced walls and four short feet. These were catalogued as "cruet frames with pierced boxes," and from the late 1830s might be lobed in outline, each curve following that of its appropriate bottle.

Glassware now included a mustard and two peppers with silver tops : the oil and vinegar bottles were fitted with glass stoppers, finials shaped in numerous designs. In a range of two, four, six, seven and eight containers they were catalogued as "Cruet and Soy Frames." Rare examples were made with galleries built from machine-embossed panels.

Hall-marks at first were struck in a conspicuous position on the cruet frame, and on casters in a row immediately below the cover. In 1730 the Court of Wardens at the London Assay Office ruled that the marks should be struck as far as possible from one another in order to prevent forgers from cutting them out for insertion into more imposing articles of inferior metal. Marks throughout were usually, but not invariably, struck beneath the base as far as convenient from one another. Thinly stamped factory-made casters were struck with small punches placed as closely as possible around the exterior of the foot rim. The London Assay Office price list of 1777 used the following terms in connection with cruets: "Frame for Cruets 2d; caster 1d; cruet top ½d."



11.—A MODERN VERSION OF THE CRUET FRAME. By Leslie Durbin. Collection of Mr. George Courtauld



Photographs: 1, Messrs. Sotheby; 4 and 5, Messrs. Christie, Manson and Woods; 6, Goldsmiths' Company; 10, Victoria and Albert Museum.

NEW BOOKS

ORIGINS OF THE CONVERSATION PICTURE

SINCE the publication of the volumes by the late Mr. G. C. Williamson (1931) and Mr. Sacheverell Sitwell (1936) on the conversation picture, this delectable genre has aroused considerable interest. Such paintings have generally been associated with the 18th century, and the origins of this style, if such it is, have not received the attention they warrant. Now this lacuna has been filled by the timely publication of Mr. Ralph Edwards's book, *Early Conversation Pictures from the Middle Ages to about 1730* (COUNTRY LIFE, 42s.). Mr. Edwards, who recently retired from the Victoria and Albert Museum, is well qualified for the task; indeed the delightful exhibition on this theme, which he arranged in 1946, still lingers in the memory.

Mr. Edwards's aim is to reveal that the "conversations" of Hogarth and his contemporaries were not isolated works, but sprang from a tradition that had long existed on the Continent. Starting with Jan van Eyck's Arnolfini family in the National Gallery, Mr. Edwards has pursued his quarry in various countries: the result has been the provision of much material, some of which is relatively little known. Inevitably, the sponsor of a fresh thesis will find that not everyone is in agreement with him; and, on occasion, his interpretation of the scope of a conversation picture may seem rather too broad. But even so, this does not detract from the justice of his case, and it now clearly demonstrates that this genre began much earlier than the 18th century.

Preconceived Ideas Upset

So attractive is the theme that one wants to know more. Would Mr. Edwards, for instance, support the inclusion of the paintings of such Dutch or French Caravaggio-like masters as Honthorst or Valentin as conversations? They often chose themes in which soldiers are seen grouped round a table, gambling or drinking; and not all of them were conceived with a moral or allegorical purpose. Then again, a case might be made out for the inclusion of Dirck Hals or more of the Flemish or French mannerists. Indeed, one of the merits of this examination is that it shakes up our pre-conceived ideas about certain themes or styles.

Nearing the 18th century, Mr. Edwards is on surer ground, and all students of the period will have reason to be grateful to him for his virtual resurrection of such little-known men as Charles Philips, who acknowledged his debt to Watteau. Incidentally, an account of the relations between the conversation picture and representations of stage scenes would be welcome; the one may owe much to the other. The rôle of the theatre in France, for instance, was considerable, and Mr. Edwards does not make quite enough of this connection.

Minor Artists

His chapter on such minor English men as Gavin Hamilton and his contemporaries—the second eleven to Hogarth—is most rewarding. He has pointed out, as well, that Egbert van Heemskerck, a Dutch artist who died in London early in Queen Anne's reign, referred to his "drunken drolls," painted in the manner of Brouwer, as his conversations, and that this term was applied by Buckridge in his *Essay towards an English School* (c. 1706) to the elder Laroon.

Not the least attractive part of Mr. Edwards's volume is its illustrative material, and ninety-five reproductions are provided. These include a number of celebrated paintings, but also many which are unfamiliar and have never been reproduced. Here one can find convenient illustrations of Tournières and of such unusual

paintings as the anonymous *Four Gentlemen Playing Primero*, belonging to Lord Derby. The plates are accompanied by a useful catalogue; the note on the *Double Portrait of J. B. de Champaigne and Nicolas de Platé-Montagne in a Studio* might have included a reference to the article in the *Warburg and Courtauld Journal*.

Now that Mr. Edwards has established the antecedents of his theme, it is to be hoped that he will continue the story. It would make good reading.

The Herald of Romanticism

The last few years have witnessed a welcome increase in specialist publications on English art. The terrain is so considerable that the research worker can promise to maintain the supply as long as publishers are sporting enough to produce the results. A case in point is the water-colour, which has been the subject of several admirable accounts. Here praise must go to such veterans as Mr. C. F. Bell and Mr. A. P. Oppé, whose contributions to the Walpole Society (which is one of the most reasonable "clubs" I know) have been exemplary; and to Mr. Oppé, as well, we owe a balanced and lucid account of Alexander and J. R. Cozens (Black, 1952).

Now the same firm has issued *The Art of Thomas Girtin* (50s.), a joint venture by Mr. Thomas Girtin and Mr. David Loshak. Mr. Girtin is a descendant of the artist, and will be remembered both for his work on Cozens, and for the Girtin exhibition he arranged at Agnew's in 1953 (see COUNTRY LIFE, February 13, 1953). Mr. Girtin, who has devoted many years to the study of his hero, is mainly responsible for the catalogue, which is all that one could desire. As far as this part of the volume goes, it will remain the standard work.

On Verge of Greater Things?

Nor will the reader find much to cavil at in the account of Girtin's life, which is carefully documented, and presents an able picture of an artist who died young, perhaps on the threshold of greater things. The description of his stylistic development has also been accomplished with skill; and this could be seen at the Agnew exhibition in all its variety.

Some points still demand further examination: for instance, it would be interesting to know if Girtin was aware of contemporary French art when in Paris. Again, Girtin's debt to earlier art is a fascinating theme, which still demands elucidation. He may well have studied Rembrandt, and the authors see the specific influence of this master in certain works dating from 1799-1800. In particular, they attribute this to the fact that Girtin could have seen Rembrandt's landscape *The Mill* (now at Washington), which they state was shown in London in 1798, with the Orléans collection. In point of fact, although the Italian section of this great collection was exhibited in London in that year, the Rembrandt was among the Dutch and Flemish pictures which were bought by Thomas Moore Slade on behalf of Lord Kinnaid's syndicate, and shown, not at the Bryan gallery, but at the Old Academy Rooms in Pall Mall in 1793, under the direction of Wilson. Thus, Girtin would have had to examine this particular picture when 18, unless he saw it with its subsequent owners—a Mr. Smith, and the 1st Lord Lansdowne.

The view is also advanced that Girtin may have known Seghers's paintings, but nothing is said about the possible influence of this artist's prints; and it would be instructive to know if Seghers's graphic work was available at this date, when print collecting was so popular.

When dealing with hard facts, the

authors are to be commended. The general observations, made by Mr. Loshak, are much more controversial, and they do not altogether assist our view of Girtin's art and personality. Here, Mr. Jonathan Mayne's sensitive and more modest assessment, published in 1949, is much to be preferred. It is not so much that one may break a lance with the contention that the water-colour was an exclusively British art; as Mr. Edward Croft-Murray has shown it was a well-developed style in Holland. It is rather that the sociological interpretation advanced by Mr. Loshak is frequently based on shaky evidence. He maintains, for instance, that Girtin was not only the herald of new romanticism (no one will quarrel with this point, already well established by Mr. Mayne), but that he was also the spearhead of a reaction against "the feudal servitude" which J. R. Cozens and Warwick Smith were forced to undergo. Incidentally, there is plenty of evidence (see Smith's life of Nollekens) to suggest that artists did not do too badly on such trips.

Contretemps with Lord Elgin?

The main evidence for this view of Cozens is an article in the *Library of Fine Arts*, published some thirty years after the artist's death, which purports to provide an account of Girtin's refusal to accompany Lord Elgin to the East. It may well be that Lord Elgin and Girtin fell out over terms; and also that Lord Elgin (a member of what Mr. Loshak calls elsewhere an "untarnished aristocracy") made him wait for an interview; but such contretemps have occurred before and since. Such slender evidence is not enough on which to base a whole thesis, which takes us far from the known facts of the artist's life and work.

But Mr. Loshak is not content to leave the matter there: to score his point Girtin must be contrasted with his predecessors—the old trap into which Vasari fell. Thus, he is forced to see Cozens and Towne as representatives of a "decaying civilisation" and as artists of a "neurotic escapist art." As he declares: "It was the limitation of an essentially negative attitude, too, which probably prevented them from creating the new technique without which true Romanticism would have been impossible."

Surely if Cozens and Towne are to be brought in, then their merits, which are considerable, need rather more discussion; and if anyone is to be described in these terms it might be Piranesi or Desprez. There is surely very little in Cozens which suggests the *fin-de-siècle*, and his appreciation of mountains, of atmosphere, of light, is as important as any supposed neuroticism or escapism; in any case, all art is escapism up to a point, as Berenson has pointed out. The danger with the method espoused by Mr. Loshak (which is allied to economic determinism) is that the facts must be made to fit the case, and the trouble is that they simply don't. D. S.

ROCKS AND SHRUBS

SHUBBS can be considered the backbone of a collection of rock plants, either in the open rock garden or in the alpine house." So Mr. R. E. Heath points out in the introduction to *Shrubs for the Rock Garden and Alpine House* (Collingridge, 42s.). Even more than in the rest of the garden is this true, for without dwarf shrubs the rock garden becomes flat and uninteresting, or dominated by its rockwork. In addition to their architectural and decorative uses, shrubs are invaluable for providing tender plants with shelter from excessive sun and from wind. In this book Mr. Heath has, therefore, dealt with these shrubs exclusively.

After brief chapters mainly on

propagation, transplanting, re-potting and planting, Mr. Heath launches into a list of shrubs which fit the definitions he lays down for them, some, perhaps, on the borderline between herbaceous and sub-shrubby. This excellent descriptive list, with full cultural details for each plant, is supplemented by a large number of first-rate illustrations.

The alpine gardener who may hesitate to spend two guineas may be more tempted by *The Alpine Garden* by C. F. Walker (Collingridge, 15s.). This is not a specialised book, but rather the result of Commander Walker's own successes and failures, his explorations of the byways of rock gardening and the random reflections which have occurred to him from time to time since he started alpine gardening some twenty years ago. He deals in his first chapters with the planning and construction of the rock garden; but he emphasises "that the rockwork is merely a frame designed to show off the plants to the best advantage." In an attempt to help the name-wanderer beginner Commander Walker gives a chapter on alpines of charm and distinction, followed by others on blue plants, silver-leaved plants, saxifrages, gentians, campanulas, dianthus and dwarf conifers. He rounds off with notes on general maintenance, propagation, sinks and windowsill gardens.

He writes trenchantly and amusingly, disposing of fallacies and encouraging those heresies which he has found to work.

Growing Mushrooms

Another new book from Collingridge is *Modern Mushroom Cultivation*, by A. A. Richards (8s. 6d.). There are a lot of books on this subject, some of them rather too sanguine. Mr. Richards is certainly reliable, as his long experience in growing mushrooms at the Cheshunt Research Station guarantees; the book is also reasonably cheap, yet of adequate length for a subject which is so full of pitfalls for the unwary. Unlike some other authors, Mr. Richards has the amateur well in mind and discusses growing mushrooms in mixed greenhouses, frames and even lawns, though his quantities—e.g., "1½ tons of hard chalk"—often show his commercial "upbringing." There are adequate illustrations.

The Amateur Gardener

Though first published in 1935, *Practical Gardening for Amateurs*, by A. G. L. Hellyer (Collingridge, 15s.), deserves mention because in this fourth edition it has been completely revised. The basic plan and much of the text are the same, but changed botanical names, new plant varieties and the latest scientific developments, for instance, have all been taken note of. The text has been reset and, most important, the book has been completely re-illustrated. There are now a great number of line drawings and plentiful gravure illustrations. The purpose of the book is stated in the Foreword: "To provide an introduction to gardening; a simple summary of garden craft for the reader with little or no practical experience." I need hardly add that it is characterised by Mr. Hellyer's lucid style and patient explanation.

The 1955 Year Books of the four specialised groups of the Royal Horticultural Society are now available: *Daffodil and Tulip*, *Lily*, *Rhododendron and Camellia* and *Fruit* (Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent-square, S.W.1, 10s. each). If I say no more than that their habitual excellence in style, illustration and matter are well maintained, it is because the subjects covered are too various to expand on here without invidiousness.

A. J. H.

HUDDY WINS AGAIN

A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

I THINK there must be a little cherub who sits up aloft and takes care of the President's Putter. I went down to Rye a day early, on the Tuesday—in a blizzard—and found that there were at least four inches of snow on the course.

On Wednesday a very slow thaw had begun, but we wanted a fast one, and clearly the start must be put off by a day. On Thursday a few rebellious people said that we could have played, which was obvious nonsense, but still encouraging nonsense, and on Friday there was the course in its smoothest, silkiest condition, with the greens keen and beautiful and only a little casual snow in the hollows. Once more the miracle had happened; touching all manner of wood, the history of the Putter since 1920 has been uninterrupted. Some cherub indeed! I must admit that the Monday, the day of the semi-finals and finals, was abominable, with a wind in the nature of a gale, bitterly cold, with squalls of rain. Otherwise it was as near as might be perfect winter golf.

being dormy two, won at the 19th. Micklem v. Pattinson was another excellent match, but Pattinson, good and accurate though he is, found the course a little long for him, and had to put too much faith in a pitch and one putt. The second round saw an all too brief appearance of a great all-round-game player, A. J. Evans, twice runner-up in this tournament: Bull and the years were a little too much for him.

But the truth is that all the other matches on this day faded into insignificance before Oppenheimer v. Micklem. I believe these two, well as they have known each other for years, have never before met "in anger," and I fancy it was a hard match for both of them to play. Both were under a handicap, for Oppenheimer had hardly touched a club since November, and Micklem carried the whole burden of this tournament on his shoulders and had to be here, there and everywhere; the number of telephone calls he had to answer as to the snow would have driven any ordinary man

many of us had our heart strings torn by this match. We were delighted to see youth playing so well, but we dreadfully wanted Raymond, who has never won, to crown his captain's year by victory. And with all respect to his gallant young conqueror, he was rather tragically robbed. At one up and two to play, he had hit another magnificent tee shot to the 17th with a certain cast-iron three in prospect and his opponent in the bunker. Thereupon O'Brien holed his shot out of the bunker for a two. Nor was that all; the 18th and 19th were halved, but at the short 20th O'Brien holed from off the green for a three. Once is all very well, but twice is the devil. However, the young gentleman justified himself many times in the afternoon by the most perfect exhibition of golf, and the surprisingly crushing murder of Alexander.

The match that drew the afternoon crowd, and that deservedly, was between Duncan and Crawley. The golf was excellent and exciting, and Duncan's putting, nearly always good, was enough to break a heart of stone. On the way out it was rather Crawley who was holing the saving putts, but, coming home, it was Duncan who holed the winning ones. When he was three up at the 15th all seemed over, for Duncan is a fierce rubber-in of an advantage, but for once he weakened a little and Crawley very nearly caught him, but not quite.

On this same Sunday afternoon there began to loom up formidably a new figure in the "plump and pleasing person" of P. Gracey, a great fighter, a great putter, and an infernally difficult man to beat. He won a stern struggle against Philcox with a four at the 19th, which was certainly not classically played, but attained its object. Huddy, who had been jogging along almost unnoticed, beat Neilson, and people began to wonder if he was going to win again.

Duncan slaughtered Agate, who had one of the bad putting days that beset him. If only he could find some definite principle of putting he would be terribly hard to beat, for he is a beautiful striker of the ball.

Finally, I come to the day of storm and wind which is still howling venomously round the Dormy House as I write. It really was a hideous day and if there were some sixes and sevens no one could be surprised. The now truly menacing Gracey beat O'Brien in a match in which there was some good golf, considering the tempestuous conditions. I think O'Brien lost the match at the Sea hole when he took wood for his second and topped the ball hard into a bank in front of him. Still, he seemed likely to save his bacon at the home hole till that incalculable Gracey laid the ball stone dead from 50 yards away in the left-hand wilderness, a shot as skilful as it was brave. Meanwhile, Duncan was having a shocking time of it against Huddy. Great putter as he is, he does not like a high wind to putt in and twice he not only missed quite a short putt to win the hole, but missed the next one back for a half. Five down at the turn was an almost hopeless business and Huddy won, if not without some anxious moments, by 3 and 2.

The final was hardly a great match, and the weather was altogether hateful, but Huddy again showed that a bad start does not trouble him—a most valuable quality. He made a mess of the first two holes and lost them both. If Gracey could have holed a short putt to be three up at the 4th, I don't know what might have happened, but no putts are short in such weather and he did not hole it. Huddy won the 5th and almost from that moment was clearly winning. He was one up at the turn and with Gracey's drive out of bounds at the 10th the writing was on the wall. He got a brave four at the Sea hole with a pitch and a putt, while Huddy, after two splendid wooden shots to the green, took three putts, but it was an expiring effort and the end came mercifully at the 15th. I feel as if I had not said enough about the victor since there have been so many matches to talk about; but his was a really fine and notable victory.



G. HUDDY (left), WINNER OF THE PRESIDENT'S PUTTER, R. H. OPPENHEIMER, THE REFEREE (middle) AND P. GRACEY, RUNNER-UP, WITH THE PUTTER.

A photograph taken outside the club-house at Rye

For the second time running Gordon Huddy, the reigning Cambridge captain, won the tournament, a truly remarkable achievement by a very, very good young golfer. He was on the whole kindly treated by the draw, but he was never very seriously troubled throughout and his golf was wonderfully sound and solid. There is nothing in his game to pick out particularly when all is good, but I think he is best on and near the green. I saw him play one or two chips out of rough, tufty grass near the green with a mixture of delicacy and firmness which marked a golfer of really high class. The present strength of undergraduate golf is shown by the facts that of the last eight four were members of last year's victorious Cambridge side and two present Cambridge undergraduates, Huddy and O'Brien, were in the semi-final. Things have indeed changed since we thought it odd and almost outrageous when one undergraduate, in the shape of that fine golfer who was killed in the war, Kenneth Scott, reached the final. Crabbed age is to-day having a poor time of it.

Now let me take a short glance at each of the four days. On the first, A. D. Cave and Bull, yet another undergraduate, had a really capital match, with both playing well: Bull, after

crazy. Yet both played admirably and the match ended in such a real blaze of brilliance on the part of Oppenheimer as has seldom been seen.

He was two up at the turn, playing more slowly and earnestly than he often does, and especially taking great pains on the green. Then he began to slip a little and Micklem was ultimately one up with four to play. Moreover, he was stone dead in three and his enemy some twelve feet away in the like. Humanly speaking I think Oppenheimer was destroyed if he did not hole that putt, but he did hole it, and that was the spark to set him alight. A fine iron shot to the 16th gave him an eminently holeable putt for a three he did not need, and that was all square. A grand tee shot with a driver at the 17th gave him a putt for two, which he holed. That was one up and, finally, another great shot, this time with a No. 4 wood, finished a very few feet from the hole. It was a finish morally if not actually of 3, 2, 3 against which there was no contending.

On that same afternoon another previous winner, Lucas, went down before Fisher, only at the last hole, after being four down with four to play, but I must now jump to the Sunday morning and Oppenheimer's match against Robin O'Brien, of the Cambridge team. I think

CORRESPONDENCE

EARLY FALSE TEETH

SIR.—Can any of your readers tell me when the first false teeth were made? It is said that George Washington had a set of wooden teeth, which gave him a great deal of trouble and pain. Thus it appears that dentistry was in an undeveloped state at even that comparatively late date.

But what would a company of elderly people, even the royalty and nobility, have looked like in earlier ages? Most of them would have lost one or more teeth, some perhaps all teeth. They could not have been an attractive company when they talked or laughed. And what did the reigning beauties look like if they had lost one or more teeth? Their smiles could not have been as entrancing as was sometimes described.

Novelists seldom mention the teeth of their characters. The only instance I recall is in one of Maurice Hewlett's stories where he describes an old man eating an onion. "Having no teeth he was but a poor performer on the onion."

This question of teeth before modern dentistry has always been an interesting speculation to me, and I hope that someone who may read this can resolve my difficulty.—B. ROGERS, *New Fairfield, Connecticut, U.S.A.*

A LENGTHY CAT NAP

SIR.—Recently my brother went away on a week's visit, and simultaneously his cat disappeared and remained missing; it was thought to have met a trap or the wrong dog. My brother returned and, when replacing his visiting clothes in his chest-of-drawers, opened the bottom one, where he found the cat well and unperturbed—and the drawer completely clean. It had been tight shut, so what ventilation the cat enjoyed had been through the keyhole.—E. F. RAWLINS, *The Square House, South Petherton, Somerset.*

CHRISTMAS HOLM BUSH

SIR.—Mr. Lambert, in your issue of December 16, 1954, quoted from the churchwarden's accounts of Rye, showing that our present-day custom of erecting a Christmas tree in churches revives the mediæval practice of setting up a holly bush with candles on it. He asked whether other references to the Christmas holm bush in churches are to be found.

In *Churchwardens' Accounts* (the Antiquary's Series) the Rev. J. C. Cox has a chapter on the garnishing of churches in which he gives numerous items concerned with the purchase of

candles, holly and ivy before Christmas. But only one of the entries among those cited is as explicit as the payment at Rye. At St. Margaret's, Westminster, in 1503 fourpence was paid "for holly and ivy agenst the fest of Crystemas" and an unspecified sum "for candyll for the holy Busche." The holly bush seems also to be meant in an item from the accounts of St. Mary-at-Hill, Chester (1535-6): "For holyns to make the holyn . . . vd." At Ludlow in 1555 cords were bought "to hange evy and candleles upon at Christmas." — ARTHUR OSWALD, *Rosslyn House, Dormansland, Surrey.*

YORKSHIRE CHURCH PLATE

SIR.—Your recent article on early church plate of domestic origin (January 6) prompts me to send photographs of two similar pieces made for secular use, but given to the Church in Stuart times.

One is a richly ornamented pattern, in silver gilt, from Pontefract. At the centre of the bowl there is a woman's face in repoussé, and an inscription round the circumference reads: "The guift of Margaret Tattam to the Parish Church of Pontefract for ever 1640." It was made in London in 1566.

The other example is a fine silver-gilt communion cup from Guisborough, north Yorkshire, with a triangular steeple supported by three figures. This also was made in London, in 1604.—G. B. W., Rawdon, Leeds.

AN IMPOSING AQUEDUCT

SIR.—Your recent correspondence on canals recalls a late 18th-century engineering story—the construction of the beautiful aqueduct to carry the Preston-Kendal Canal over the River Lune at Lancaster.

This imposing structure, opened with great ceremony in 1797, took five years to build and cost £48,000. It is 664 feet in length, and has five semi-circular arches, each of 70-foot span, rising from rusticated piers, fixed on piles driven 30 feet deep. The height from the surface of



SILVER-GILT PATTEN, MADE IN 1566, AND
(right) SILVER-GILT COMMUNION CUP
MADE IN 1604

See letter: Yorkshire Church Plate



THE AQUEDUCT, COMPLETED IN 1797, WHICH CARRIES THE PRESTON-KENDAL CANAL OVER THE RIVER LUNE AT LANCASTER. (Right) DETAIL OF THE ARCHES AND CUTWATERS

See letter: An Imposing Aqueduct

the river to the canal overhead is 51 feet; the total height from the pier foundations to the summit of the balustrade is about 90 feet.

The architect is understood to have been Alexander Stevens (1730-96), drawing to the designs of John Rennie, who was appointed engineer in 1791. So great was the skill that Rennie brought to the design and construction that the aqueduct is stated to be in as good a condition to-day as when it was built.

Before the advent of the railways a considerable traffic passed along this waterway, chiefly coal from the south Lancashire coalfield to the coalless districts of north Lonsdale and South Westmorland. The barges returned with limestone, of which there are inexhaustible supplies in that region; hence the old saying: "White one way, black the other."

Now the waterway is deserted save for the occasional angler; its towpath is overgrown and water lilies open on the surface of the water.—P. MARDEN, Carnforth, Lancashire.

CROW WITH A TASTE FOR GOLF-BALLS

SIR.—The following strange incident occurred when I was playing golf recently at Hankley Common, Tilford,

Surrey. We were all square after five holes. The 6th is unusually long (some 540 yards I believe) and dog-legged to the left. Playing into a bitter wind, we both pulled our drives into heather a few yards from the fairway. We played out safely and then my opponent hit a superb wood far up to the left of the fairway, leaving himself a chip shot to the hole. Mine was not so successful, but the ball finished on the fairway and within easy reach of the green.

We were sauntering along as happily as the weather conditions allowed when a crow, hitherto unobserved, swooped on my opponent's ball and carried it off in its beak. I expressed my amazement and concern, and then noted with some satisfaction that the crow was about to deposit the ball in a particularly thick patch of heather some 70 yards or more from the fairway. I offered insincere condolences and, wondering vaguely what the rule was, reflected that it was just as well to be one up before tackling the short and tricky 7th. We wandered on, trying unsuccessfully to recall a similar incident.

And then the crow returned and, to my horror and dismay, descended on my ball and proceeded to carry it far over the green and deposited it in equally thick heather nearly out of sight. It was my opponent's turn

to smile. Indeed, he laughed outright. We had no heart to continue the hole and called it a half.

As we went to the 7th tee, there was the crow waiting for us in a nearby tree. That morning golf-balls had gone up in price and we were wise enough to scare the crow away before attempting our next shots.

I have since been in communication with the honorary secretary of the club, and he informs me that recently there have been other incidents of this sort and he attributes them to the fact that these birds are carrion crows which probably came to feast on rabbits suffering from myxomatosis and developed this ball-thieving habit only as an afterthought,

three and a half ounces. Nearly all the wireworms were about $\frac{1}{4}$ in. in length.

I have no idea how long a bird would take to fill its crop to this extent, or how frequently it would do so, but the total number of pests destroyed by a covey of these birds each season must be colossal.—G. W. T. MOSEDALE, *Tarr Cottage, Kingston St. Mary, Taunton, Somerset*.

NOTTINGHAM CASTLE EXCAVATIONS

SIR.—In connection with Mr. G. Bernard Wood's article on the excavations and underground passages below Nottingham Castle (January 6), I have always understood that many interesting objects were found when Mortimer's

with Nottingham Castle at the time, but perhaps some of your readers could enlighten me.—J. H. OUSELEY-MOYNAN, *Chalfont Heights, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire*.

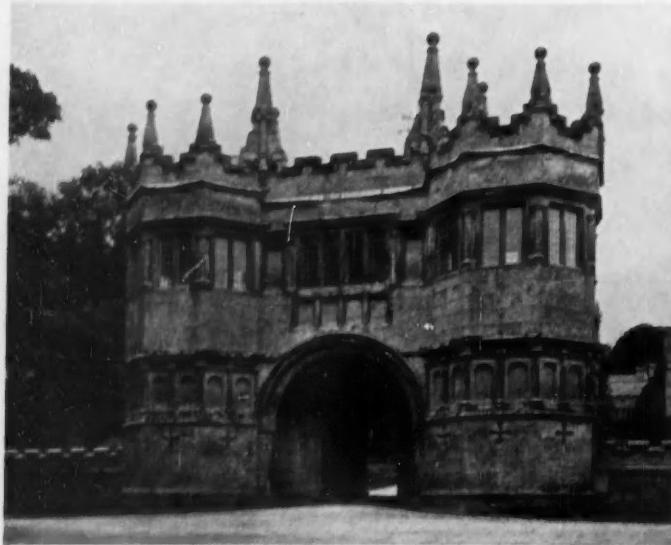
CORNISH GATE-HOUSES

SIR.—Your issue of December 16, 1954, which I have only just seen, contained a letter from Mr. Gayton about Trenethick Barton, in Cornwall, and was accompanied by a photograph of the gate-house. Mr. Gayton wonders whether there are other similar examples of gate houses in Cornwall. I can think of the following. First, Cotehele (St. Dominick): an embattled structure with a long, narrow, tunnel-like entrance beneath, built by Sir

access to the delightful front court of this 17th-century farm-house, of which Baring-Gould wrote in *The Gauvers*.

It is probable that the large moulded entrance arches at Tregarden (St. Mabyn) and Trevarre (St. Kew) were also once part of gate-house structures.

The answer to Mr. Gayton's query about the coat-of-arms displayed on the gate-house porch at Trenethick is given by Hals: "Trenethicke in this parish . . . is the dwelling of Sampson Hill Esq., one of His Majestey's Commissioners for the Peace . . . and giveth for his arms, or, a fess between two chevrons Sable, which is the coat armour of the ancient family of the



THE GATE-HOUSES AT LANHYDROCK, COTEHELE (right), PENHEALE (below, left) AND (below, right) TONACOMBE, CORNWALL

See Letter: Cornish Gate-houses



possibly mistaking the balls for eggs. "We have noticed," he observes, "that they only go for clean white balls." It would be interesting to know whether other clubs are experiencing this apparently new menace.—G. P. RITCHIE, 1, *Cafener's-close, Kinnerley-street, London, S.W.1.*

[Magpies, as well as carrion crows, are at times guilty of this unclubbable behaviour.—ED.]

A PARTRIDGE'S CROP

SIR.—On January 7 I picked up a partridge, still warm, which had apparently collided with the telephone wires along the lane, breaking its neck in its fall. The bird's crop was swollen and on examination was found to be tightly packed with the following: 903 wireworms, 4 small snails, 1 woodlouse and a number of grass seeds. The total weight of the contents was

Hole was re-discovered in 1864. Unfortunately, at the time the same care and attention were not bestowed on these as would have been given to-day, and a considerable proportion went to the more prominent families in the city and neighbouring county for which no record exists.

We have in our possession two early glass wine-bottles, probably of the 17th century, presented to my wife's grandfather. One of these is of particular interest in that it bears the crest of the Clifton family, which I have verified from an early edition of Burke's *Peerage*, surmounted by the initials "G.C.", possibly those of Gervase Clifton, who became second baronet in 1666. The other bottle is possibly of earlier date, but quite plain.

I have been unable to trace whether Clifton had any connection

Richard Edgcumbe in the 15th century. Second, Lanhydrock House (Lanhydrock): a lovely gate-house, with Renaissance detail, completed in 1658 by John Lord Robartes, who held the house for Parliament in the Civil War until it was occupied by Sir Richard Grenville in 1644. Though the gate-house now stands isolated in front of the house, it was once, according to D. Gilbert, "united to the house by two lofty walls." Third, Penheale Manor (Egloskerry): an attractive 17th-century gate-house incorporated in a range of domestic rooms, some of which contain plaster decorations of the period. Fourth, Tonacombe Manor (Morwenstow): a squat and solid little gate-house nestling against the side of the main building. Fifth, Marsland (Morwenstow). A miniature avenue leads up to this tiny gate-house (restored), which gives

Seneschalls of this place, whose daughter and heir was married to the gentleman's ancestor now in possession, as I am informed."

Towards the end of the 18th century the house was inhabited by the notorious parson Thomas Wills. This gentleman's chief interests were badger-baiting and fox-hunting (he kept his own pack of hounds at Trenethick), and he was content to leave the affairs of the parishes of Helston and Wendron in the hands of a curate on a stipend of £52 10s. a year. He was painted by John Opie. Wills was said to haunt the house until his spirit was laid by a service of exorcism.—A. F. M. JACK (Maj.), *Collacombe Manor, Lamer-ton, Tavistock, Devon*.

[We reproduce photographs of the gate-houses at Lanhydrock, Cotehele, Penheale and Tonacombe.—ED.]

MID-VICTORIAN SOCIETY

SIR.—The delightful photograph (January 6) of a "hunting group including the Prince of Wales, taken at Kimbolton Castle, Huntingdonshire, in mid-Victorian times" reminded me that there is an account in the *Field* for January 27, 1877, of just such a visit of the Prince of Wales to Kimbolton Castle. This account records how the Royal party hunted on Tuesday, January 16, with the Oakley Hounds, meeting at Pertenhall cross-roads, on the Wednesday with the Fitzwilliam Hounds at Catworth guide-post, on the Friday with the Cambridgeshire Hounds at Gaynes Hall and on the Saturday with the Pytchley Hounds at Oxendon. Enough sport was shown on each day to satisfy the visitors, or, at any rate, the chronicler, but the point of most interest, in relation to the photograph which you have published, is the constitution of the Royal party. On the Tuesday the Prince of Wales, the Earl of Hardwicke, the Marquis of Hartington, Count Redern and Colonel Teesdale were the mounted contingent, while the Princess of Wales was on wheels, accompanied by the Countess

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BOX CONTAINING FOUR COUNTERS MARKED WITH THE ONE, TWO, THREE AND FOUR OF DIAMONDS. One of the counters is shown with the box

See letter: For What Game?

of Westmorland and (their host) the Duke of Manchester. On Wednesday arrangements were the same except that both the Duke and Duchess of Manchester were on horseback. On Saturday the original mounted party went off by train to the Pytchley with the addition of Captain Montagu.

There is no mention of the Duke of Sutherland, but, since your correspondent has identified the Marquis of Hartington, it seems possible that the photograph was taken on the occasion of this particular visit of their Royal Highnesses to Kimbolton in January, 1877, and perhaps someone may identify, from the names given above, further figures shown in the group.—MICHAEL F. BERRY, *Benefield House, near Peterborough*.

FOUND BEHIND THE WAINSCOTING

SIR.—If any information can be given about the marine painting of which a photograph, by the courtesy of the Parker Gallery, Albemarle-street, is enclosed, it will be much appreciated. The picture (46 ins. by 28 ins.), when found behind the wainscoting of a Cambridgeshire house, had not seen the light of day for about a century and a half. From the red ensigns, the jack and the construction of the vessels in the fleet, one would place the date about 1740-50.



MARINE PAINTING OF ABOUT 1740-50, SHOWING SHIPS AT ANCHOR OFF AN UNIDENTIFIED HARBOUR

See letter: Found behind the Wainscoting

The conspicuous hill surmounted by a church in the background, with township below and the warehouses to the right, should give a clue, but, so far, we have been unable to discover where the place is or what was the naval occasion. Perhaps your readers will be able to throw some light on these points. The painting suggests the work of Swaine rather than Monamy, but no signature can be deciphered.—B. C. WINDELER, 99, *Wool Exchange, Basinghall-street, London, E.C.2.*

FOR WHAT GAME?

SIR.—I wonder whether any of your readers can tell me the purpose of a little box containing four counters engraved with the one, two, three and four of diamonds. Box and counters are made of a dark tortoiseshell, and the box has a little disc let into the lid. The photograph shows the box, which is about an inch and a quarter in diameter, with the four of diamonds counter leaning against it. The box was for years in the possession of a French lady, who thought it was used for some game.—R. A. WEST, *Windyridge, Comptons-lane, Horsham, Sussex.*

THE TEMPTRESS

SIR.—I should be grateful for the help of your learned staff over the help of an archbishop, 12 ins. in height and mounted on an oak pedestal, of which I enclose a photograph. The prelate is hollow and when unscrewed from the base can be lifted off to reveal a smaller statuette of Mother Eve encircled by the serpent. On the ab of the larger figure there is inscribed Haffke—presumably the artist's name. I should like to know what is the significance of this rather incongruous pair, who was the artist and the probable date and place of origin of the work.—FREDERICK HEMUS (Chaplain, R.N.), *H.M.S. Ganges, Ipswich, Suffolk.*

Ivory statuettes containing smaller figures inside the hollow of the tusk are only occasionally found. In this instance the idea of an archbishop harbouring a figure of Eve with the serpent under his canons no doubt appealed to the sense of humour of the carver or a collaborator. C. Haffke, of Dublin, whose name does not appear in any of the reference books, is known to have carved ivory figures during the second quarter of the 19th century, to the designs of Dr. Robert Ball, the naturalist (1802-57). Ball, a genial character, was President of the Geological Society of Ireland and in

1844 was appointed Director of the Museum at Trinity College, Dublin. This statuette suggests that he enjoyed a silly dig at the Church.—ED.]

THE LEGEND OF ROBIN HOOD

SIR.—I followed the recent interesting correspondence on Robin Hood in the hope of finding a solution to three questions which have always puzzled me. First, the gravestone at Kirklees Priory is said to have been inscribed: "Here lie Robyn Hode William Goldburgh Thoms . . ." (the rest obliterated). Does anyone know who William Goldburgh (or Goldesborough, as Grafton calls him) was? Second,

THE BATTLE OF THE SAINTS

SIR.—Mr. Bryan Little, writing of two pictures at Harptree Court, Somerset (December 30, 1954), says: "In the other the *Barfleur*, 90, whose name is easily visible on her stern, is accepting de Grasse's surrender in the dismasted *Ville de Paris*."

I have an oil painting by my grandfather, Vice-Admiral G. H. P. White, showing the *Ville de Paris* striking to the *Barfleur*, but with this notable difference—the *Ville de Paris* has all three masts standing with fore and main topgallant sails, fore, main and mizzen topsails and fore course



IVORY STATUETTE OF AN ARCHBISHOP, SIGNED "HAFFKE," WITH (left) A SMALLER FIGURE OF EVE WHICH IS HIDDEN INSIDE IT

See letter: The Temptress

"Gilbert of the White Honde" is mentioned in *A Lytell Geste of Robyn Hode* as a member of Robin's band. As he was an archer the name certainly could not mean that his hand was leprosy, but probably "of the White Honde" was a family name. I have found it nowhere else and it would be of interest to know whence it was derived. Third, who was the Sheriff of Nottingham at the time Robin Hood lived?—G. F. TANNER, 68, *Welling-way, Welling, Kent.*

set. This picture is reproduced in H. S. Lecky's *The King's Ships*. It would be interesting to know which is correct.

My great-grandfather, then aged twelve, was messenger to Sir Samuel Hood at the Battle of the Saints. Sir Samuel wrote to my great-great-uncle as follows: "He is exceedingly alert and steady and so much to be depended on (although only 12 years of age) that I have him at my elbow in action, to send with messages to the respective officers." He went to sea in the *Barfleur* at the age of eleven, and was in seven actions before he was thirteen. He died a rear-admiral.

It seems probable that my grandfather consulted his father about the incident.—E. G. DE S. JUKES-HUGHES (Capt., R.N., ret'd.), *Stourbridge House, Milton-on-Stour, Gillingham, Dorset.*

ENGLAND'S SMALLEST PARISH?

SIR.—The title *England's Smallest Parish?* to Mr. Geoffrey Grigson's article in your issue of December 30, 1954, is a challenge which cannot be ignored. Suffolk can, fairly confidently, throw down the gauntlet with the civil parish of Dallinghoo-Weald, near Woodbridge, which has an area of 35 acres and no inhabitants.—LESLIE DOW, *The Old Rectory, Newbourne, Woodbridge, Suffolk.*

HENRY III's MAGNA CARTA

SIR.—Miss June Wilson, in her article *History beside a River* (January 6), states that the Magna Carta of Henry III is at Lacock Abbey, Wiltshire. I believe I am correct in saying that this is only a photostat copy with a small piece of the original seal attached and that the original is in the British Museum, having been presented to the nation some years ago by Miss Talbot.—P. W. BARRETT, *Delvine, Beaminster, Dorset.*



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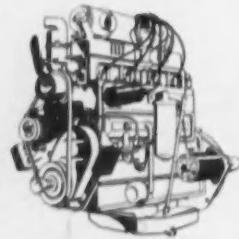


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A CAUSERIE ON BRIDGE

THE REASON WHY

By M. HARRISON-GRAY

MANY readers have asked for further details of the big bidding match; some of them, no doubt, feel they might have improved on the leading scores hitherto reported. The majority want to know (a) whether the low rate of scoring was due to bad bidding or bad marking, (b) how high was my own score, which (in a previous article) I "modestly" forebore to mention.

My reticence was actually based on a deep sense of shame, for a personal squandering of marks could not be entirely attributed to administrative problems. With the highest motives, as soon as the official ten-man English team had been nominated, I induced nine others to form a subsidiary team; a few days later, our force had to be doubled and then divided into two teams representing the London and the Middlesex County Associations; and, right up to the day of the contest, almost daily inroads were made on my personnel in order to bring the senior team up to strength.

This sacrifice was cheerfully borne, but, as zero hour sounded, some of the senior pairs found they had not been provided with that essential perquisite, the official table scorer; the natural solution was to promote those doing duty with the county teams. Thus, what with one thing and another, I had no time to digest the conditions of the contest before picking up my first hand:

♦ J ♠ J 3 ♦ K Q J 8 7 6 2 ♣ J 5 2

Not vulnerable against vulnerable opponents, I heard my partner open with One Diamond. We all know what happens on this type of hand—once you let the opponents in, you eventually have to save in Seven Diamonds against a vulnerable Six Spades—so the obvious bid is an uncompromising Five Diamonds. "I hope all my problems are as simple as this," was my smug comment as the board was whisked away to the next table. Any discussion or examination of partner's hand being strictly barred, the first shock to my ego was deferred till the end, when the lay-out proved to be this:

West	East
♦ J	♦ Q 5
♥ J 3	♥ K Q 10
♦ K Q J 8 7 6 2	♦ A 10 4 3
♣ J 5 2	♣ A 9 8 7

Dealer, North. North-South vulnerable. Awards: One, Two or Three Diamonds, 100; Four Diamonds, 40.

First excuse: I must have been somewhat distracted. Whatever real-life opponents may do, a vulnerable ghost in the North seat does not pass as dealer and then enter the fray, in a bidding contest, at a much higher level. Second excuse: others made heavy weather of this number, including our five senior pairs, who amassed a total of 180 marks out of a possible 500. The only pair to keep a clean slate were J. Tarlo and A. F. Truscott, with One Club—One Diamond; Two Diamonds—pass, Tarlo being the only player to realise that there is little point in opening with the higher-ranking minor on a hand like East's.

The following struck me as a very good and perfectly fair test, although no one in the English team was inclined to agree with me.

West	East
♦ A Q 3	♦ K 7
♥ 9 4	♥ Q J 7 5 2
♦ A K Q 8 5 4	♦ J 6 3 2
♣ 6 4	♣ A K

Dealer, East. Neither side vulnerable. Awards: Three, Four or Five No-Trumps, 100; Five Diamonds, 50 (11 tricks are cold in either No-Trumps or Diamonds, but the object was to reach the highest-scoring makeable contract).

Three of the senior pairs used the same sequence: One Heart—Three Diamonds; Four Diamonds—Four Spades; Five Clubs—Six Diamonds. The other two sequences were One Heart—Three Diamonds; Four Diamonds—Five Diamonds; Six Diamonds, and One Heart—Three Diamonds; Four Diamonds—Four Spades; Five Clubs—Five Diamonds; pass. This last redeeming effort, by N. E. Squire

and Dr. H. Leist, enabled the team to score 50 marks out of a possible 500 on this affair.

Although I strongly favour the use of the forcing take-out on hands where a simple response is liable to create difficulties on a later round, the West hand struck me as an exceptional case when it came my way. What does one do if, over Three Diamonds, partner should say Three Hearts? One can re-bid Diamonds, of course, but it might prove unwise to by-pass Three No-Trumps in a contest of this nature; the alternative, a Spade bid on a three-card suit, might or might not turn out well. I decided that I could probably catch up if I temporised with Two Diamonds only over One Heart. The outcome, up to a point, was highly gratifying.

My partner (Miss Shanahan) raised to Three Diamonds, and now a bid of Three Spades was clearly indicated, haven being safely reached when East bid Three No-Trumps. By this time, however, I was so flushed with success that I had visions of certain specific, but improbable, eastern holdings. Although startled by my master bid of Five No-Trumps, East kept her head, and a pass allowed us to save our bacon by an uncomfortably narrow margin.

A word about the awards. Mr. M. J. Sullivan, chairman of the Australian Bridge Council, has circulated a report which includes this comment: "Our adoption of basic principles for dealing, selecting and marking the 30 official deals seems to have eliminated most of the criticisms which followed the two inaugural bidding internationals of 1953." With great respect, speaking as one who has gone through the mill on an adjudicating committee, I suggest that Mr. Sullivan is a supreme optimist.

As I have said before, many of the hands were ideal in every respect, and I could find no fault in their markings (naturally enough, since my partner and I hit the bull's eye every time on the said hands!). But, like everyone else, I could see no point in including those hands on which good bidding was almost bound to score a duck; in my opinion, the highest possible score

in practice was nearer 2,500 than 3,000 per pair, which goes some way towards answering my correspondents' query. Furthermore, greater care might have been taken to ensure that the hands did not favour any particular style of bidding—for example:

West	East
♠ K Q 6 2	♠ A J 10
♥ A 7 5 2	♥ K Q 6
♦ J	♦ Q 9 3
♣ K Q 8 4	♣ A J 9 5

Dealer, North. Both sides vulnerable. Awards: Six Clubs, 100; Five Clubs, 60.

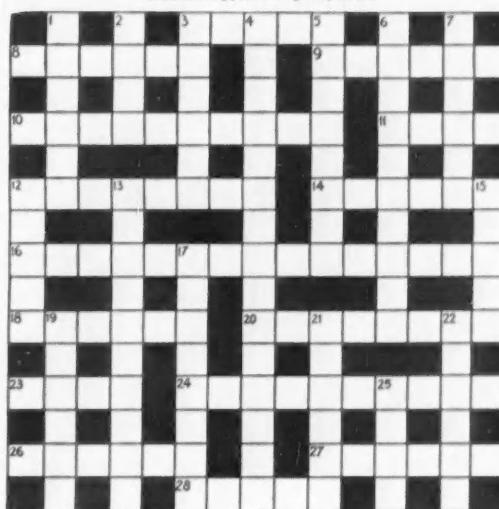
If you take the view that the East hand (*pace* Mr. Mayer) is an ideal One No-Trump opening, you need some very special gadget to bring you to the par contract. West visualises a possible slam, but only if a fit can be found in one of his four-card suits, and the bidding is likely to go: One No-Trump—Two Clubs (conventional); Two Diamonds—Three No-Trumps; when East denies four cards in either major, West throws up the sponge. It seems rather hard not to award any marks for Three No-Trumps; given a Diamond lead, East makes 11 tricks, and improves on the Five Club contracts, if North holds the Ten of Diamonds, or if either defender has both Ace and King. Natural bidders might get to the Club slam after One No-Trump—Three Clubs—Four Clubs, but a forcing take-out on a four-card suit can be a dangerous manoeuvre. (*Note*.—My partner and I did **not** score full marks on this number!)

The hand was far easier for those whose system did not permit a standard No-Trump opening; East had to open with One Club, and a typical sequence was that of Tarlo and Truscott: One Club—Two Spades; Three Spades—Four Clubs; Four Hearts—Five Hearts; Six Clubs. As against this, Squire and Leist got slightly entangled in the meshes of the Baron system, with One Club—One Heart; One Spade—Four Spades; Five Hearts—Six Clubs; Six Hearts. No marks; trumps cannot break three-three in a bidding contest!

CROSSWORD NO. 1302

COUNTRY LIFE books to the value of 3 guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 1302, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than *the first post on the morning of Wednesday, January 26, 1955*.

- ACROSS**
3. He does not use his instrument for smoking (5)
 8. At last an artist has returned from the waste land (6)
 9. Lily maid (6)
 10. A cane paper (anagr.) (10)
 11. Men who made bird noises (4)
 12. Not often moved from his place in the field? (8)
 14. "Dancing, to put thy pale lost — out of mind" — *Ernest Dowson* (6)
 16. Atlas could never feel like this (2, 3, 2, 3, 5)
 18. Encountered in the fields they would hardly make you jump (6)
 20. Tea given (anagr.) (8)
 23. In new style road houses (4)
 24. Butterfly flower, not an orchis (10)
 26. Rough stuff, but it might be put across (6)
 27. Queen among the noblest heroines of old (6)
 28. Does she need watering in this era? (5)



Name.....
(MR., MRS., ETC.)

Address.....

SOLUTION TO NO. 1301. The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of January 13, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Collaboration; 10, Corsair; 11, Drayton; 12, Unsigned; 13, Spiral; 15, Flourish of drums; 17, Ten commandments; 21, Combat; 22, Obedient; 25, Landing; 26, Iterate; 27, Assassination. **DOWN.**—2, Orris; 3, Learner; 4, Burden-some; 5, Rods; 6, Trapped; 7, Otterburn; 8, Scruff; 9, Knolls; 14, Bonny bairn; 16, Ornaments; 17, Tackle; 18, Ocarina; 19, Maddest; 20, Sitter; 23, Erato; 24, Ages.

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.

The winner of Crossword No. 1300 is

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Beaconsfield,
Buckinghamshire.

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THE ESTATE MARKET

BUYING FOR THE HOME

ON December 23 I reproduced comments by representatives of a number of auctioneers on the likely effect of the lifting of restrictions on the importation of antiques. One of the firms whose impressions were given was Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, whose views are of general interest in that a large proportion of the articles handled at their weekly sales are good-quality pieces of the type that one finds in an average country house. In fact, Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley emphasise in their review of business carried out during the past year that they have deliberately avoided reference to spectacular sales and record prices and have aimed, instead, to give sellers and buyers an idea of general values.

A SHORTAGE OF GOODS

THE prices of furniture, carpets, china, glass and pictures, like those of most other commodities, are governed to a great extent by supply and demand, and Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley refer to an ever-increasing shortage of goods for sale, a shortage so acute that an American buyer, returning to London after an absence of nine months, remarked to a director of the firm: "You seem to have pretty well scraped the bottom of the barrel."

The lack of goods for sale is attributed partly to the fact that a high percentage of the country's stock has already been shipped overseas, and partly to the fact that owners are no longer emigrating to the Colonies in large numbers, and movements from large houses to flats and smaller houses have mostly been completed. The result is that the market is now dependent on normal factors, such as the liquidation of estates, "and," say Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, "unfortunately, from our point of view, many beneficiaries to-day wisely prefer to retain the chattels they have been bequeathed rather than turn them into cash in the present inflationary times." Nor is any improvement in the situation anticipated, since, with monetary exchange rates heavily in favour of overseas buyers, the export of goods continues on a large scale, leaving less and less for the home market.

The increasing shortage of goods, coupled with strong competition from foreign buyers, has necessarily meant higher prices, especially for the better-class furniture. For instance, Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley state that the finest pieces are selling to-day at roughly 50 per cent. above the 1953 level, medium-quality goods are 25 per cent. up, and goods of poorer quality from 10 to 20 per cent. higher.

A HINT FOR SELLERS

A HINT passed on to sellers by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, based on their experiences during the past twelve months, is that it has been proved conclusively that, by and large, owners who have goods to dispose of are well advised to sell them on the premises rather than in a London auction room. "The very worst policy that owners or executors can adopt," they add, "is to remove the choicest pieces from a house and leave the remainder to be sold on the premises."

Having dealt with values in general, Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley turn their attention to the prices of individual classes of antiques. The greatest scarcity, it seems, applies to furniture, for "prices are advancing without check, and the owner of good antique furniture has to-day an investment second to none." Small pieces, in particular, are in demand, and small Sheraton dining and breakfast tables making anything from £25 to £60, and sets of Regency chairs

fetching from £8 to £10 a chair. Georgian wardrobes, on the other hand, are difficult to sell, and oak, with the exception of the finest period pieces, is out of fashion. There is, however, an increasing demand from America, Canada and Australia for certain types of Victorian furniture. Victorian dining-room chairs, which in 1953 fetched £1 a-piece, have been selling for as much as £3, and similar increases are reported for other articles of the same period, provided that they are not too bulky.

Owing to relaxation of restrictions on imports, the prices of carpets and rugs eased during 1954, though there continues to be a keen enquiry for Aubusson, Savonnerie and other fine carpets provided that they are in good condition.

The principles that apply to furniture apply also to china and glass, demand outstripping supply, with the exception of large unwieldy groups of decorative china and porcelain. And, as with furniture, prices rise steeply in ratio to the merit of the goods. For example, whereas good antique dinner services will fetch anything from £50 to £300, the value of sets of lesser quality has fallen owing to the availability of modern, mass-produced goods.

"JUST PICTURES"

THE market for pictures, according to Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, falls into three distinct groups consisting of pictures of merit that can be safely attributed to past or present masters; pictures of age and merit that cannot definitely be attributed to any particular artist; and "just pictures."

Of the first of these classes, they write that prices go higher and higher, several pictures sold during the past twelve months having fetched more than ten times the price realised when they were auctioned twenty years ago. Pictures in the second category are described as bringing pleasant surprises as well as disappointments, buyers who are prepared to back their judgement paying prices "which surprise us and gladden the vendor." But here, again, the accent is on merit, for the market for pictures of the third category, with the exception of flower pictures, pleasing interiors and attractive landscapes, is weak.

CHURCH COMMISSIONERS BUY AGAIN

THE Church Commissioners have added to their already formidable interests in agricultural land—they are one of the largest landowners in the country—the Dissington estate, Northumberland, which extends to roughly 3,000 acres and which has a gross rent roll of approximately £7,000 a year. The property, which was sold privately by Messrs. Lofts and Warner, includes 13 farms, three smallholdings, four village shops, 45 cottages and just under 200 acres of woodland.

A property very different from Dissington sold recently by Messrs. Lofts and Warner is the Weeke estate, which covers 107 acres at Winchester and which is probably the largest single plot of land still undeveloped within the borough. It is understood that parts of the estate are to be acquired by local authorities, and that other parts, where planning permission has been granted, will be developed by the new owners.

Among a number of sales negotiated by Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. are those of Callander Cottage, a medium-sized house standing in 65 acres overlooking the River Teith, near Callander, Perthshire; Arrandene, Lady McRae's Regency home at Mill Hill; and, with Messrs. Wellesley-Smith and Co., Winklebury Hill, near Basingstoke, Hampshire.

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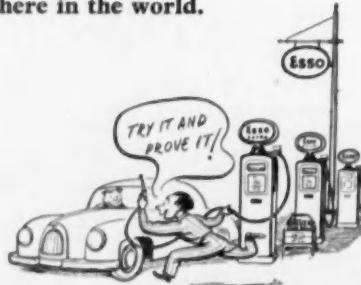


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FARMING NOTES

FEBRUARY SOWING?

WILL any of the ploughed ground be fit to carry a seed drill by the beginning of February? We need the boon of a dry time really early in the spring so that arrears of land work can be made good. A great deal of ploughing has been done in the past six weeks, but the acreage of winter wheat and winter oats sown must be the lowest for 10 years at least. A neighbour who grows about 200 acres of corn each year and reckons to put away half this acreage by the end of October tells me that he has only 25 acres sown. This is about the measure on most farms, except in East Anglia, where once more the comparatively dry climate has favoured tillage farming. It is the general opinion that the total acreage of corn for the 1955 harvest will be reduced, especially on the mixed farms where livestock production is the most important element in output. With the end of feeding-stuff rationing it is no longer necessary for the mixed farmer to grow a substantial part of the grain he wants for his livestock. He will do well for himself by buying what he needs, either in straight grain and protein cake or in a compound cake. There is, however, at the moment, one deterrent to the trend towards grass farming. It is the high price asked for grass and clover seeds. September and October were such horribly wet months that many fields where a crop of herbage seeds would have been taken had to be abandoned to grazing by cattle or sheep. At least one farmer who had intended to sow out an arable field this spring and fetch out a grass ley field has decided to take another straw crop on the first and leave the second as it is. A well-established ley, suitably dressed with fertiliser, can be highly productive if there are enough stock on the farm to turn the grass to good account. Store cattle are likely to be dear this spring. I wonder if Ireland has any extra beasts that can be sent here? They would meet a good trade.

Kale by the Yard

MOST marked of all the new farming practices this winter is the use of the electric fence on kale and rape. A single strand of wire, moved on each day, serves to give the cows a ration of greenstuff, just as much as they will clear up without spoiling the rest of the crop. Cutting kale is a laborious business; even where a mower is used the stems have to be gathered up and carted to the cattle. This is the only way if the ground is so wet that it will not stand the treading of cattle, but in practice this winter soil carrying kale has kept exceptionally dry. Is this because the thick foliage gives an exceptional rate of transpiration and takes moisture away from the top soil? Rape has also made great growth this winter, and it is helping to provide useful fodder for cattle as well as sheep. A spell of hard frost at this time of year will, of course, spoil such fodder crops and make it essential to rely on dry forage entirely. So far farmers in most districts have been able to keep to modest amounts the hay and oats straw taken by outwintering stock. Such economy has been forced on us, as the ricks do not contain much that is good.

Hillside Reclamation

SOME enterprising reclamation work is going on in the West Country, where I noticed last week that the prairie buster plough had been at work on rough hillsides covered with bracken and bramble. At first sight it seemed strange that anyone should be tackling this land now if it had escaped the attention of the agricultural executive committee during the war, but I reflected that this ground, mainly up

hill and down dale, could not have been reckoned suitable for grain growing, and in the war years it was a crop of grain or potatoes that the committees always had in mind when land was ploughed from grass. Now these hill-sides can be reclaimed to grow better grass and no doubt direct reseeding will be the course adopted. It may be a sound enough commercial proposition. The Ministry of Agriculture pays £10 an acre ploughing grant on such virgin country, and half the cost of the subsequent working, fencing and watering is met by Government grant. Indeed the taxpayer may find a total of £25 an acre, which must approach the freehold value of such ground.

Pig Economics

THE Fatstock Marketing Corporation has pushed up the price to be paid for Grade A baconers to 58s. a score for the week beginning January 24. The Corporation is trying to keep pace with the pork market and the pork market has rocketed because beef and mutton are scarce. If the farmer can be pretty certain of getting three out of four of his bacon pigs into Grade A at 59s., a score and the other one into Grade B at 55s., a score there is no doubt he is on a better wicket than the pork trade can offer. The current porker price is 55s., a score. For pigs that are not certain winners in the bacon grading because they are likely to grow too fat as their weight increases, pork is the best outlet. In this race between bacon and pork the Corporation is subsidising the present-day baconer out of the fund built up in the autumn by price penalties imposed on low-grade pigs sent to the bacon factories. These low-grade pigs realised more than farmers were paid for them. The F.M.C. formed a pig reserve fund, and it is from this source largely that the extra price for high-grade baconers is now being paid. The 1955 baconer is indeed feeding on the tail of the 1954 baconer.

The Wage Packet

BY the decision of the Agricultural Wages Board for England and Wales the minimum wage for men farm-workers rises to 127s. for a 47-hour week, starting on January 24. New overtime rates for men are 3s. 5d. any hour on weekdays and 4s. 1d. an hour for overtime on the weekly short day (usually Saturday), Sundays and public holidays. The value attached to food, board and lodging for a farm-worker is now 43s. 6d. a week. These increases are not matched by any revision of the rent which a farmer may charge for a service cottage. Everyone in the farming business knows that the actual wages earned by competent men are well above the minimum standard. The cottage rent, however, cannot be raised above 6s. without special dispensation from the local committee. Yet this rent charge is one of the most unrealistic figures in farm costings or in the comparisons made between farm earnings and urban earnings.

Farm Apprentices

IN the past year 303 boys and girls have been accepted for training and placed on farms by the Agricultural Apprenticeship Council. Kent and Cheshire have done best and Essex, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Hertfordshire and Lancashire have made a start. The Council says that many farmers who would be ideal training employers and who are willing to take apprentices have had to refuse because they could not find quarters for them. In some districts the Women's Institutes are helping to find suitable lodgings, and more offers would be welcome.

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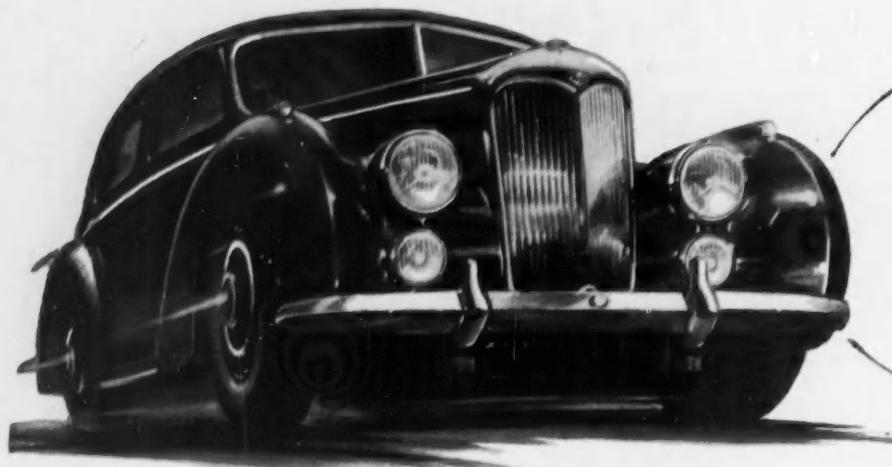
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NEW BOOKS

AN ARCHAEOLOGIST LOOKS BACK

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

IT is strange what long shots life occasionally pulls off. More than forty years ago, when I was a youngster in Bradford, working for the *Yorkshire Observer*, I saw a man, wearing a top hat and frock coat, talking to my editor. Later in the day the editor said to me: "That was Wheeler of the London End. He's been praising his son," and Drysdale smiled, as though praising his son were an occupational disease of Wheeler of the London End.

And now, so long after, the son, Sir Mortimer Wheeler, gives me the pleasure of finding him praising his father. He does so in *Still Digging* (Michael Joseph, 15s.) and, though

guns in the Desert and in Italy during the second. He has some vivid chapters on both wars, and with such interludes as these, as well as his archaeological work, it is small wonder that boyhood has to be passed over briefly.

The archaeological work, of course, is that on which Sir Mortimer's reputation rests, and even that is tangled with the hot stress of modern change, for when he took over the archaeological survey of India it was just before and during "partition" time, when "the Hindu-Muslim war (it was nothing less) laid low a million men, women and children in September, 1947." He was involved in all this

STILL DIGGING. Sir Mortimer Wheeler

(Michael Joseph, 15s.)

GOD'S COUNTRY AND MINE. Jacques Barzun

(Gollancz, 18s.)

WE ARE UTOPIA. Stefan Andres

(Gollancz, 7s. 6d.)

briefly, recalls to my mind the Bradford of those days. For Wheeler was not always the London editor. He was for some years on the Bradford staff, and so Sir Mortimer Wheeler, a scholar at the Grammar School in Dr. Keeling's day, knew the town and the glorious surrounding country just before I went there from the south.

DEBT TO HIS FATHER

It was the father who wakened the son's interest in all sorts of things, including archaeology, destined to be Mortimer Wheeler's life work. The pair would hew "most scandalously into the flank of an ancient barrow on Baildon Moor," fill their pockets with Roman potsherds at Ilkley, note the cup-and-ring marks on the hillside above the town, or pick up "an occasional flint knife or 'scraper' on Rumbold's Moor." Looking back, Sir Mortimer sees "how in these impressionable years the insidious poisons of archaeology were already entering my system."

His father stirred in him the love of much more than archaeology. "His mind was a map of the by-ways of literature, a scholarly map full of exciting discovery.... We were a solitary pair, bound by bonds tighter than we knew." Yet of his father the author says: "He was a failure by all standards save his own." I do not think so. In the office, at all events, Wheeler of the London End was not thought a failure, and this present writer, after that sole glimpse of him, thought a frock coat, a silk hat and the London editorship would be success beyond what he could hope to reach.

The Bradford reminiscences are shorter than I could have wished, but it had to be so in the long, active unfolding of the author's life. To take one point: how many men are there who fought in both the "World Wars" of our time? I don't mean fought in the first and took a staff job in the second. In both Sir Mortimer Wheeler was an active fighting man, in the thick of battle: with the artillery on the Western front in the first war, and commanding a brigade of anti-aircraft

while working to bring order into the disorderly methods of Indian archaeology and training young archaeologists to carry on the work when the English were gone.

Necessarily, he gives us here only an outline of what his archaeological achievement has been, for it has been dealt with fully in his other books. He had already, before the first war, decided on archaeology as a career, and soon after demobilisation became Keeper of Archaeology in the National Museum of Wales and Lecturer in Archaeology at the University College of Cardiff. He became Director of the Museum, made of it a "going concern," and then accepted the Keepership of the London Museum in St. James's. He was mainly instrumental in founding the Institute of Archaeology, of which he became Director—an institute whose function has been likened to that of "a laboratory of archaeological science, wherein the archaeologist of the future may learn the essentials of his business." And what is the business of the archaeologist? The author here defines it as "the study of human achievement in its more material aspects, but its ultimate function is the re-creation of Man—sentient, rational or even irrational Man—in the vicissitudes of his long life history."

Here you have the archaeologist both as the deviser of new techniques for the doing of the work, and as the man doing the work. Sir Mortimer carried on his investigations in many parts of the world, but none stirred my imagination more than what was done at Maiden Castle in Dorset. The author himself confesses to approaching the work with awe, and to feeling, as he looked at the outcome, that "no poor relic in the soil of Britain was ever more fraught with high tragedy."

A PROFESSOR'S VIEWS

Mr. Jacques Barzun, who is Professor of History at Columbia University, was taken to America from France by his parents soon after the first World War. He was twelve years old. Now, in his middle forties, a

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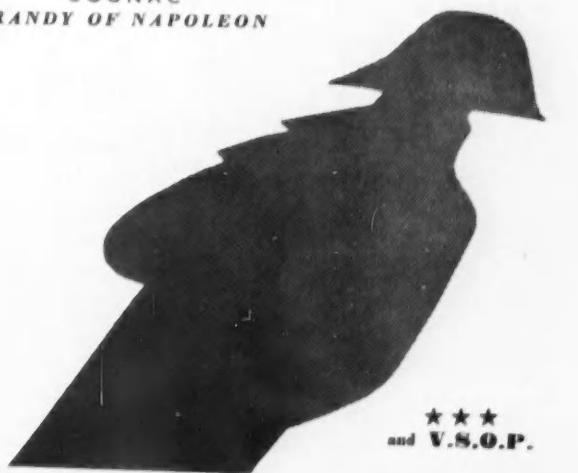
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REVIEWS by HOWARD SPRING—continued

United States citizen, he looks at his inheritance and tells us what he thinks about it in a book called *God's Country and Mine* (Gollancz, 18s.). The subtitle is "A declaration of love spiced with a few harsh words."

THE TASK OF THE U.S.A.

Put briefly, Mr. Barzun's view seems to be that every country outside the United States coats its nationals with mire, and that the historic task of the States is to take them in, give them a wash and brush-up, and put them on the way to becoming good democrats. Burke called the common people the "swinish multitude" and Hamilton was right if he said "Your people, sir, are a great beast." But we, swamped with a humanity made thus by the hands of others, have tackled the job of scraping it clean of filth and beastliness, of ignorance and superstition, and we have begun to see the thing succeed." When we come upon these high-horse passages we turn back to make sure that the title doesn't read *My Country and Jacques Barzun's*, with a more august authorship. Burke spoke in the 18th century, and later than that the Duke of Wellington—if Mr. Barzun wants another instance—could speak of his troops as "the scum of the earth." But does Mr. Barzun imagine that in more recent times a few other countries haven't been engaged in scraping clean?

We are given the maddest generalisations. "To this day a European nobleman or shopkeeper will stoop to doing things for money which an American would starve rather than do." Oddly out of touch with what is happening in the world, Mr. Barzun speaks of "the poor little undersized and overworked slaveys on whose backs the whole system rests: they get up at six and sweat to ten or eleven at night to keep everybody fed and happy. Then they retire to some hole in the wall or under the gable roof." He believes in "the frozen faces and tight embarrassed throats of an English dinner-party," and as he goes wildly astray about this side of the Atlantic, writing sometimes as though the Wars of the Roses were still hot news, so he misjudges our view of America. The trouble is he writes without qualification. Thus: "To our best friends and critics every type of ballyhoo and raucous fraud is in fact equated with Americanism." Nothing could be further from the truth.

NEW YORK "FILTH"

And so, when he comes to spice his tribute of love with "a few harsh words," the reader on this side will wonder whether a writer who has been so un-understanding about him can be accepted about the country of his adoption. Because, when Mr. Barzun gets away from high-flown generalisations and begins to tell us about America bit by bit, we wonder what God thinks of being roped in as co-possessor. The postal service is awful. The railway system is dreadful. New York is nothing but a façade to physical and moral filth, a "squatters' camp." "Go into the parks at night and you will have your teeth knocked in aid your valuables taken." "In most quarters it is impossible to send a child to a public school if one wants it to be (1) educated, (2) safe from bodily harm, (3) reasonably sheltered from indecency of language and behaviour."

However, I find it difficult to take this writer with much seriousness.

When he cries "Wolf" to every European whippet—"the European assumption that *every man* shall be a wolf to every undefended woman" (my italics)—we don't know where we are with any of his opinions. He is capable of incredible naiveté. "We have to recognise that there is still in the United States some difference of upbringing as between the working man and the 'gentle,' even though that gap has been leaped by many an executive who started in the ranks." Does he seriously imagine that only in God's country and his that gap can be leaped? Still, the book is worth reading, if only for the fun of it and for many flashes of sound sense.

RELIGION AND MURDER

One of these flashes is contained in this sentence: "It was impossible to make him understand the superior morality of doing right with ease, from inside out instead of outside in." I thought of this as I was reading *We are Utopia*, by Stefan Andres (Gollancz, 7s. 6d.). This beautifully translated novel is, on one level, deeply moving, but on some I reject it entirely. It is the sort of novel we are accustomed to from Graham Greene and François Mauriac, in which a point of theology is laboured as though it were that so different thing, a point of religion. A renegade priest, now a soldier, returns 20 years later to the monastery where he had lived as a monk. He returns as a prisoner-of-war, and the lieutenant in charge of the prisoners, finding that this one is a priest, begs for absolution. He is a sadist and lecher, loathsome drawn, and a great deal of the book is theological argument between him and the priest-prisoner on the meaning and efficacy of absolution. The lieutenant is granted absolution, and then receives orders to shoot every prisoner in the monastery. He persuades the priest to conduct a service of general absolution for all of them. The service is conducted in the refectory, and when it is over the men are mown down by a machine-gun trained through the serving-hatch.

What religious point all this is supposed to illuminate I cannot understand; but as a description of human beastliness it has a terrific compressed power.

BROADSIDES AND BALLADS

IN *Sing a Song of England* (Phoenix, 21s.) Reginald Nettel traces English traditional song from its prehistoric ritual origin to its present-day forms. The Boar's Head carol and soldiers' songs of the second World War, Victorian broadsides and the "Edward" ballad show the variety of the songs discussed and put in their social context.

Mr. Nettel spreads his net wide, which is excellent as long as he confines himself to the historical aspect of his subject. But in recommending to our attention such songs as *Mademoiselle from Armentiers*—which are hardy enough and need no Cecil Sharp to rescue them from oblivion—he seems to have applied the special pleading once needed for the folk song, in its narrower sense, to traditional song as a whole, of which folk songs are only a part. He prudently takes no sides in the problem raised by Sharp and others, whether different versions of a tune are due to improvement by the community, or a faulty ear somewhere.

There are many musical illustrations, with the words of the songs printed in full which add greatly to the enjoyment of the book. K. S.

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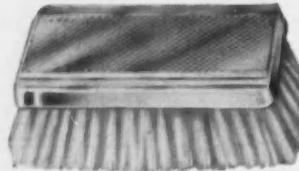
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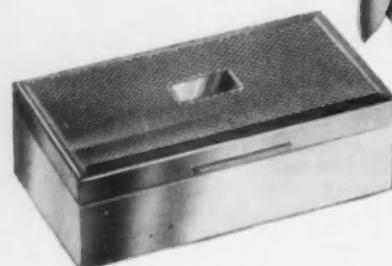
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THE custom of the last few years of filling the shops with summer clothes as soon as the New Year opens, though exasperating to the ordinary buyer, is a boon to the woman who is planning a winter holiday in the tropics or on the Riviera. This time there is a plethora of pretty clothes to choose from and of new styles to record.

A group of top coats fresh from the great wholesale houses are now in the shops. The line is straight or tapered to the hem, collars have disappeared or are as big as shoulder capes and pockets are placed almost on the shoulder line or about knee level. Many of the coats are in slab tweeds, either ivory or pearl white, or in the deeper sand colour. Sometimes they are flecked with a fairly bright colour at intervals, such as delphinium blue or cowslip yellow, with a powdering of smaller darker flecks in between. Smoother cloths, the face cloths that are called doeskin, are made up in similar styles and in plain colours. The smartest have been the faint cyclamen pinks or the stronger forget-me-not blue or topaz. Similar colours and materials appear as skirts, so that one can buy a matching outfit and then join it up with different coloured sweaters and blouses. The popular

IN SEARCH OF WARM SUN



Suit with a moulded jacket in pin-striped ivory wool. The long jacket is in the same colour in a thick long-haired woollen (Matita)



(Left) Grey travel suit in a heavy woollen jersey that has a suede surface. The jacket is bound with ribbed knitted bands and is semi-fitting at the waistline (Hardy Amies Boutique)

shape for the wide skirt is with unpressed pleats set into the waist either side of a flat front and back panel, or into a flat moulded hip yoke.

Attractive suits for travellers are everywhere. They are shown in off-white and cream tweed for wear on the Riviera with brilliant accessories—geranium pink, lapis blue, violet, grass green, cinnamon or cowslip yellow. For attire to set off in on a cruising holiday or to a destination where the light is less bright there are suits in the same flecked tweeds again, but with a somewhat darker background, usually beige or mushroom. This means they can be teamed with many different colours. Suits, in a particularly heavy jersey with a smooth suede-like surface, are practical and smart. In the Hardy Amies Boutique they show one with a semi-fitted jacket that is bound with bands of ribbed knitting in the same shade, and also a straight hanging jacket that just covers the waist.

The American suits which have been



Photographs by COUNTRY LIFE Studio

Tailored in a creaseless lemon rayon that has a roughcast surface, this two-piece comprises a jacket over a sleeveless tubular dress that has a low-cut V-shaped neckline. Bands of tucks decorate cuffs and collar (Laeta Ramage)

designed by Handmacher and are being produced in England by Streitz will be going into the stores a little later this month. Each suit is made in 13 sizes and the complete range will be available at Harvey Nichols', so that a woman can choose a suit without worrying as to whether her size is there. The back appears to be lengthened so that the cry of a too-short waistline, so often heard, cannot be levelled at this series.

THREE is a splendid fitted suit that has a brief jacket just touched with tabs of white piqué between collar and revers and on the bracelet-length sleeves. This is made in a woolen worsted. Other suits with either fitted or straight jackets are made from the new Moygashel corded rayon that has a crisp handle and is creaseless. Colours are blurred, as white is woven with black, cinnamon, dark green or blue, and one of these would be an excellent choice for any holiday in the warm sun.

A suit with a semi-fitted jacket in pebble tweed from Heather Mills is a practical buy and an easy style for a larger fitting. A bolero suit in black barathea has a white piqué sleeveless blouse and a slender skirt. Another suit is in steel grey suiting that is made from slubbed pure silk, and the straight short jacket is bound with black braid. A longer jacket with a semi-fitted waist is shown in pure Irish linen—a new line for a holiday suit.

The odd jackets are cut to the same level as the jackets that accompany some of the suits; that means they will comfortably cover a suit jacket. Most of them are being made in a fleecy flannel, with a half-belt gathering in the back fullness and placed almost on the hem. The ivory slub tweeds, which are the rage of the present collections, are also

featured for this type of jacket, which is lined with a matching silk and fastens with a single row of buttons down the front from a neat collar and revers. The reefer jacket with slits under the arms on the hemline, and double-breasted, still appears in the shops, mostly in dark woollens that have a smooth surface, or in scarlet or geranium pink. Sometimes these reefer jackets are bound with narrow knitted bands.

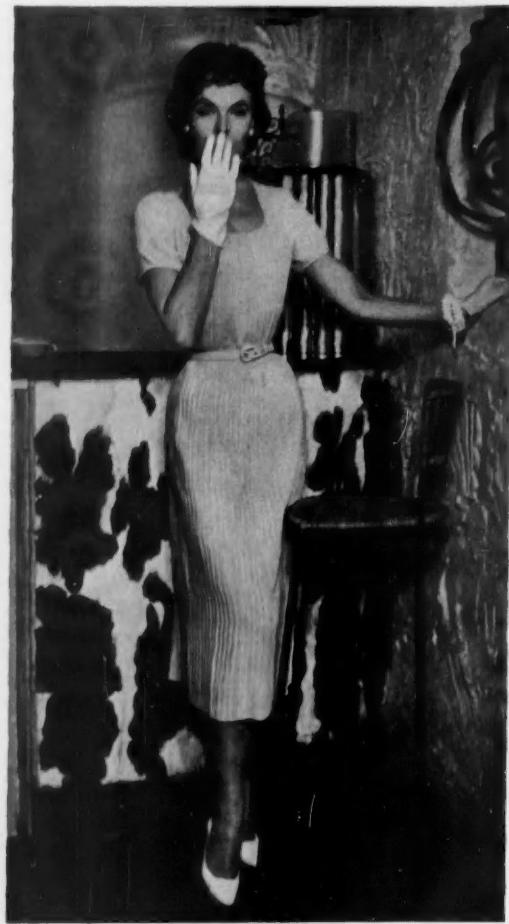
The high-necked chunky woollen sweaters dominate the sweater ranges and look particularly well in the white and bright pastels that are featured for accessory colours. These sweaters come well down on the hips and almost up to the ears and are made in fancy ribbed stitches like a fisherman's. Other versions are shown in finer wool or woollen jersey, and then the polo collar will be knitted in one with an oval yoke and inserted into a sweater that takes on the H line.

The cotton dresses are definitely fetching. Here we get the fullness set in on the hip-line following the last Dior collection, and these long bodices are flattering for most people. But by no means all the dresses have the moulded hipline; half are pleated or gathered directly into the waist. The popular style for the winter cocktail dress, where the sleeves are closely fitted and three-quarter length and the neck is cut out to a low V back and front, has been translated effectively into cotton. Horrockses show dresses of this outline in a sky-blue poplin with polished surface, in a highly polished turquoise cotton that is dotted with deep pink rosebuds and in their new diamond-dot cottons.

Jacquard cottons of the same substance and weight as a suit tweed appear as slim tailored dresses with matching straight-cut jackets, or as fitted coat frocks buttoning all down the front. Patterns are marbled or worked in arabesques like moulding on a ceiling, and in a strong colour, usually with white, occasionally with beige or faint blue. The slub rayons that are creaseless make the same type of two-piece, and the neat dresses will often

(Right) Powder blue crêpe dress pinned all over so that it appears pleated—a sophisticated dress for lunching or dining in sunny weather (Fortnum and Mason)

(Below) Dance frock in a heavy white cotton, faintly glazed and printed with zinnias in pink and yellow with occasionally one in a cool lime green (Horrockses)



be decorated at the neckline with fagotting or lattice working made from narrow flat bands of the fabric. This fabric, semi-sheer and with rough yarns placed as blobs all over, is smart, particularly in black, white and sand colour, as well as the pastels. The V neckline, and also the scoop, is featured on the collarless dresses made from it.

Pleated sheath frocks are another feature of this coming season. Some of them are in the durably pleated rayons or cottons, the dresses plain and slim as a shift, with the rounded camisole top and no sleeves. On others the pleated fronts are set into a plain shallow yoke and the tiny sleeves are made

from the pleated stuff. Pin-tucking achieves the same effect; it is done on the material itself by machine. These dresses are being shown in all the popular pastels, beige, sky blue, shell pink and lettuce green, as well as in white, and the durably pleated ones can be drip-dried without ironing.

The one-piece sundress with bloomers rather than shorts seems on the upward trend, and is usually designed with a matching button-through dress or long-sleeved shirt with a circular skirt buttoning up the front. Colours are startling. The pleated cottons are being shown among the beachwear as short skirts, like a skater's, that button on at the waist over the bloomer suits.

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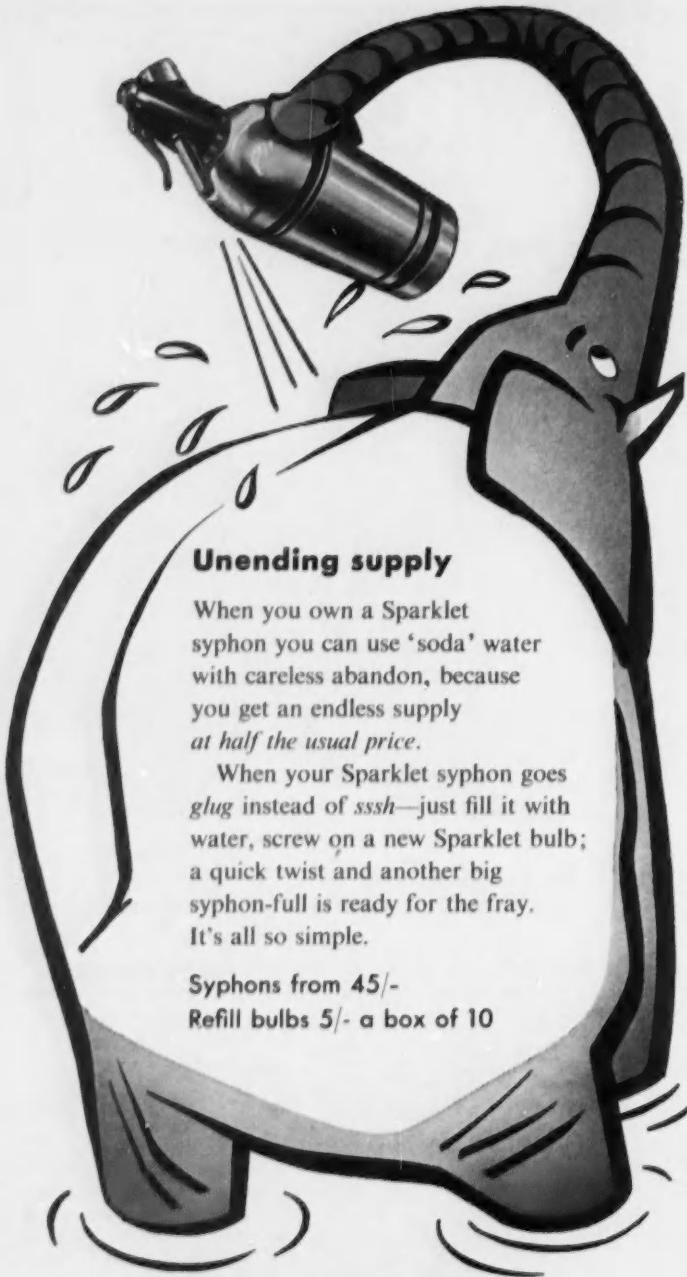
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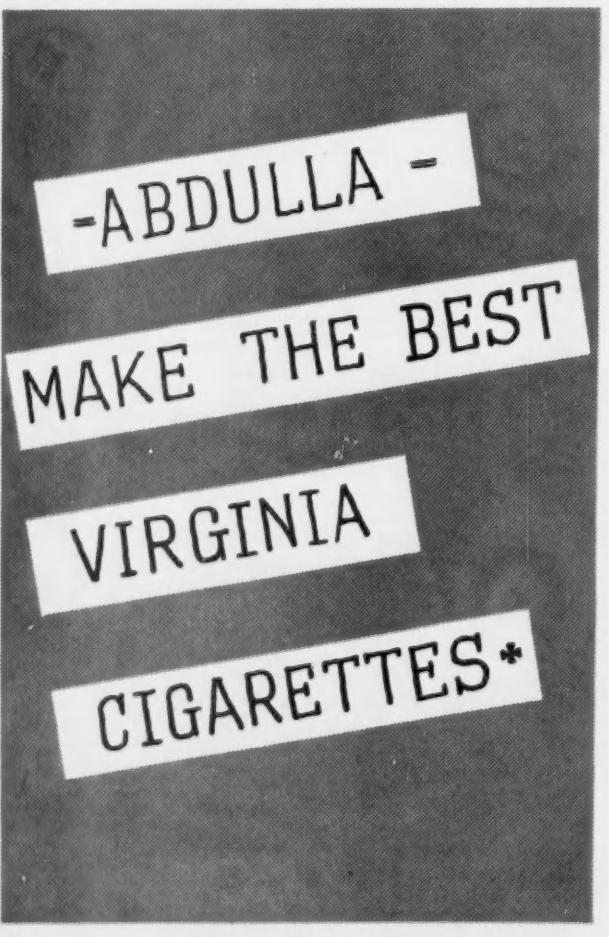
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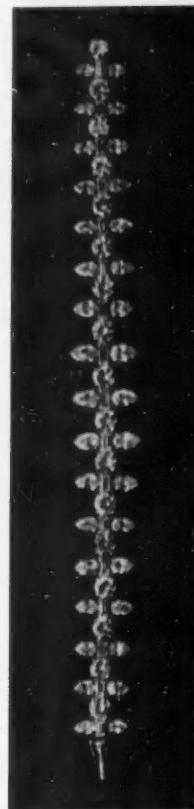
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classified announcements

CONTINUED FROM FACING PAGE

SCHOLARSHIPS

GORDONSTOUN SCHOOL

ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS

A number of Scholarships (up to £250 p.a.) are offered for award in 1955 by the Gordonstoun Society. One of these is reserved for candidates who wish to enter the Royal Navy. Age limits 12 to 14 on March 1. The written examination to be taken at the candidate's school will be on March 1, 2 and 3. Candidates who qualify will be summoned for interview at Gordonstoun on March 26, 1955. Details on application to the Headmaster, Gordonstoun, Elgin, Morayshire. FINAL DATE OF APPLICATION FEBRUARY 14, 1955.

LORD WANDSWORTH COLLEGE

ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS

(1) OPEN SCHOLARSHIP. The Governing Trustees offer one Open Scholarship for entry in September, 1955, of £50 a year to a boy not under 13 years of age and not over 14 years of age on September 1, 1955. Further particulars may be obtained from the Headmaster.

(2) FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS. The Governing Trustees offer some 20 Foundation Scholarships for entry in September, 1955. For the Foundation Scholarships a candidate must qualify under the following conditions:

1. He has lost by death one parent or both parents
2. He was born in England
3. He is between the ages of 10 and 12 years
4. He is prevented by lack of means from obtaining a similar education elsewhere
5. He is capable of benefiting from the facilities offered

Candidates are selected on their school records, on interview, and on the degree of hardship involved. The College gives an education to the Scholarship Level of the G.C.E. Board, maintenance and, if necessary, tuition and clothing are provided free to Foundation Scholars.

APPLICATIONS for both Open and Foundation Scholarships should be made to the Headmaster, Lord Wandsworth College, Long Sutton, Basingstoke, Hants. BEFORE APRIL 30.

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SEE ALSO PAGE 138



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